Foreign
Broadcast
Information
Service
50
ANNIVERSARY
1941 - 1991

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-083
Tuesday
30 April 1991

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-083

CONTENTS

30 April 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: On 6 May 1991, the DAILY REPORT will begin phasing in new radio and television sourcelines that reflect how a station identifies itself. This change eliminates the "Domestic Service" and "Television Service" designations in favor of the station identification as broadcast. The presence of a new sourceline reflects this change in policy, rather than the establishment of a new station or network.

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

IPU Conference Continues

Plenary Session Held on Nuclear Proliferation *[KCNA]* 1
  ROK Delegate Addresses Meeting *[YONHAP]* 2
DPRK, ROK Air Views on UN Membership *[YONHAP]* 2
Kim Il-song Hosts Banquet for Delegates *[KCNA]* 3
  Kim Il-song Notified of Summit Stance *[Seoul TV]* 4
  Further on Inter-Korean Summit *[YONHAP]* 4

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Finance Minister Attends IMF Committe Meeting 5
  Presents Special Drawing Rights Plan *[KYODO]* 5
  Hashimoto Warns Against Debt Writeoffs *[KYODO]* 5
Delegate To Participate in UN Monitoring Group *[KYODO]* 5
Talks With DPRK Scheduled in Beijing 20-21 May *[KYODO]* 6
DPRK Requests 'Indefinite Postponement' of Talks *[KYODO]* 6
ROK Foreign Minister Continues Tokyo Visit *[YONHAP]* 6
Cambodia's Hun Sen Receives Letter in Tokyo *[Jakarta Radio]* 7
Ikeda, Canadian Defense Ministers Meet in Ottawa *[KYODO]* 7
Former Prime Minister Leaves for PRC Visit *[KYODO]* 7
Hungarian Democratic Forum Group Continues Visit *[Budapest MTI]* 7
SDPJ's Doi Gives News Conference on Elections *[Tokyo TV]* 8
Official Remarks on Neutral Macroeconomic Policy *[KYODO]* 8
Firms Cautious About Investment in East Europe *[KYODO]* 8
Company To Help Modernize USSR Railway System *[KYODO]* 9
TV Network, USSR Station Sign Agreement *[KYODO]* 9
Car Exports to U.S. Fall Short of Quota *[KYODO]* 9

North Korea

Opening, Issues of IPU Conference Hailed *[KCNA]* 10
ROK Politician Asks Meeting With Delegation *[KCNA]* 10
Reaction to Death of ROK Student Reported 11
  Joint Statement Issued on Death *[KCNA]* 11
  Beating Death Called 'Butchery' *[KCNA]* 11
  Youth, Students Hold Meeting *[KCNA]* 12
Meetings for Soccer Matches With South Reported *[KCNA]* 12
Revision of Soccer Team Schedule Proposed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13
Nuclear-Free Peninsula Said 'Urgent Task' *[KCNA]* 13
Removal of 'Concrete Wall' Between Koreas Urged *[KCNA]* 14
Yi Chong-ok Departs for SRV, Laos, India *[KCNA]* 14
SPA Chairman Meets Arrival of Cuban Delegation *[KCNA]* 14

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Visit Army Unit *[KCNA]* 14
KPA Lauded as 'Boundlessly Loyal' to Leader *[Pyongyang Radio]* 15
Daily Views People's Allegiance to Socialism *[Pyongyang Radio]* 23
Railway Transportation Said Making Progress *[KCNA]* 28
KCNA Review of 30 Apr Pyongyang Press 28

South Korea

North's Proposed Soccer Tryout Change Rejected *[YONHAP]* 29
    Original Schedule Retention Urged *[YONHAP]* 29
Daily Views Participation in IPU Meeting *[THE KOREA TIMES 30 Apr]* 30
UN Officials Hold Talks With Yi Sang-ok *[YONHAP]* 31
Sending Rice to North May Cause U.S. Friction *[YONHAP]* 31
Soviet Military Officers To Work at Embassy *[THE KOREA HERALD 30 Apr]* 32
Joint Exploration Projects in USSR Unveiled *[THE KOREA HERALD 30 Apr]* 32
Trade Increase With PRC, USSR Predicted *[THE KOREA TIMES 30 Apr]* 33
* Swiss Official Comments on Objectives of Visit *[Geneva JOURNAL DE GENEVE 4 Apr]* 33
Students Around Country Stage Demonstrations *[THE KOREA TIMES 30 Apr]* 34
Government Accused of Indifference to Pollution *[THE KOREA TIMES 27 Apr]* 35

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Delegates Return From Border Talks in Thailand *[Rangoon Radio]* 36
Minister, Delegates Leave for Harare UN Meeting *[Rangoon Radio]* 36
One More NLD Officer Declared as Absconder *[Rangoon Radio]* 36
Opposition Blames New NLD Lineup on Coercion *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 28 Apr]* 36
SLORC on Destructive Elements, Development *[Rangoon Radio]* 36

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Kaifu Departs for Visit to Thailand 30 Apr *[AFP]* 37

Malaysia

Kaifu's View on EAEG Bloc Formation Analyzed *[KYODO]* 37
Possible Expansion of Defense Coverage Viewed *[BERNAMA]* 38
Group of 15 Steering Committee Meeting Opens *[BERNAMA]* 39

Singapore

Deputy Premier Says Prosperous China No Threat *[AFP]* 39

Cambodia

Hun Sen Returns From Tokyo, Bangkok Visits *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Hun Sen Remarks on Proposed Cease-Fire *[SPK]* 41
Heng Samrin Speaks at Religious Ceremony *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 41
Chea Sim Gives Interview on Religion *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 43
Hun Sen Thanks Kaysone Phomvihan for Greetings *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 44
Chea Sim Leaves For 4-Day Visit to Laos *[SPK]* 44
Men Sam-an Leads Trade Delegation to Laos *[SPK]* 44
Party Delegation Returns From Lao Visit 26 Apr *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 45
Vietnam Constructs 'Secret Trail' From Kratie *[Radio VOK]* 45
Khieu Samphan Greets New PRC Deputy Minister *[Radio VONADK]* 45
Commentary on Hun Sen's Statement in Thailand *[Radio VOK]* 46
Commentary on Vietnam's Role in Settlement *[Radio VODK]* 46
Editorial on Vietnam's Welcome of Cease-Fire *[Radio VODK]* 47

Indonesia

- Minister Calls on Bank To Resume Aid to PRC *[Jakarta Radio]* 48
- Suharto Promises More Aid for Kurdish Refugees *[ANTARA]* 48
- Alatas Returns From European Visit 27 Apr *[Jakarta Radio]* 48
  - Reportage on Visit to Austria *[cross-reference]* 49
- Press Criticism of Government, House 'Necessary' *[Jakarta Radio]* 49
  - Government Reforms Sought *[AFP]* 49
- Government Urges 'Honest,' 'Fair' Election *[Jakarta Radio]* 49
- Communists Ruled Ineligible To Vote in 1992 *[Jakarta Radio]* 49

Laos

- Reportage on Phoun Sipaseut Visit to Beijing 50
  - Meets Li Peng *[Vientiane Radio]* 50
  - Fetes Ties With Qian Qichen *[Vientiane Radio]* 50
  - Interview With Beijing Radio *[Vientiane Radio]* 51
  - Returns Home 29 Apr *[Vientiane Radio]* 51
- Ministry Hosts Reception Marking PRC Ties *[Vientiane Radio]* 52
- Phoumi Vongvichit Receives Outgoing PRC Envoy *[Vientiane Radio]* 52
- Foreign Ministry Statement on Cambodia Cease-Fire *[Vientiane Radio]* 52
- Reportage on Visit by Cambodia's Chea Sim 52
  - Arrives; Met by Leaders *[Vientiane Radio]* 52
  - Talks With Nouhak Phoumsavan *[Vientiane Radio]* 53
  - Further on Nouhak Phoumsavan Meeting *[Vientiane Radio]* 53
- Cambodian Trade Union Group Arrives for Visit *[Vientiane Radio]* 55
- DPRK's Yi Chong-ok To Visit 2-7 May *[Vientiane Radio]* 55
- Khamtai Siphandon on Military Concepts *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Mar]* 55
- Trade Delegation Departs for Talks in Bangkok *[Vientiane Radio]* 57
- Vongvichit Receives Outgoing German Ambassador *[Vientiane Radio]* 57
  - Nouhak Phoumsavan Receives Envoy *[Vientiane Radio]* 58

Philippines

- NPA To Intensify Anti-U.S. Bases Struggle *[NATIONAL MIDWEEK 17 Apr]* 58
- Opposition Urges Manglapus To Resign Over Bases *[Manila Radio]* 59
- Manglapus: U.S. Position on Bases Unchanged *[Quezon Radio]* 59
- Venkataraman, Aquino Sign Atomic Energy Pact *[Delhi Radio]* 59
- Taiwan Threatens To Impose Economic Sanctions *[THE CHRONICLE 30 Apr]* 60
- Selection of Military Chief Abadia Criticized 60
  - Part 1 *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 27 Apr]* 60
  - Part 2 *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 29 Apr]* 61
- Ramos Leads in Popularity Poll Survey *[MANILA BULLETIN 29 Apr]* 63
- General Nazareno Reshuffles 'Sensitive' Posts *[Manila Radio]* 63
- Aquino Signs Witness Protection Act Into Law *[THE CHRONICLE 25 Apr]* 63
- Aquino Drops Polish Debt Reduction Formula *[Manila Radio]* 64
- Aquino Stresses Local Autonomy, Decentralization *[Manila Radio]* 64
- Mindanao Wants To Formulate Own Economic Policy *[BUSINESS WORLD 29 Apr]* 64
- Central Bank Eases Measures for Foreigners *[THE CHRONICLE 26 Apr]* 65
- Economic Official on Fall in Value of Peso *[THE CHRONICLE 29 Apr]* 66
- Aquino: Market Forces To Determine Peso Value *[Manila Radio]* 66
- Communist Intelligence Officer Captured *[MANILA BULLETIN 27 Apr]* 66

Thailand

- Kaifu Arrives, Discusses Cambodian Issues *[KYODO]* 67
- Finance Official on Trade Relations With U.S. *[Bangkok Radio]* 67
- Commerce Ministry To Review Export Pattern *[THE NATION 30 Apr]* 68
- Rush To Amend Patent Act Not Seen as 'Urgent' *[NAEO NA 30 Apr]* 68
- Lao Ministers Arrive for Trade Talks *[Bangkok TV]* 68
  - Agreement on Cross-Border Transport *[BANGKOK POST 30 Apr]* 68

SRV Envoy 'Satisfied' With Present Policy *[THE NATION 29 Apr]* 69
Suchinda Reportedly Rules Out Political Career *[BANGKOK POST 30 Apr]* 70
People Support Right To Elect Prime Minister *[THE NATION 30 Apr]* 70

Vietnam

Interior Ministry Holds News Conference *[Hanoi Radio]* 70
    Further on Briefing *[VNA]* 71
ADB President Receives Appeal for Aid *[AFP]* 71
Council of Ministers' Note on Military Welfare *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
    Ministry Issues Directive *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
Malaysian Economic Delegation Visits *[VNA]* 73
USSR Party Lecturer Visits Hanoi *[VNA]* 73
Singapore Trade Group Visits Ho Chi Minh City *[VNA]* 73
Nguyen Quyet Meets DPRK Vice President *[VNA]* 73
    More on 27 Apr Talks *[KCNA]* 74
    More on 27 Apr Banquet *[KCNA]* 74
Czechoslovak Vice Foreign Minister Ends Visit *[VNA]* 74
Hanoi Meeting Marks 30 Apr, 1 May Holidays *[VNA]* 75

AUSTRALASIA

New Zealand

Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama Continues Visit 76
    Meets Rocard, Raises 'Enemy' Clause *[AFP]* 76
    Meets Prime Minister Bolger *[KYODO]* 76
French Nuclear Testing 'Poses Little Danger' *[AFP]* 76

IPU Conference Continues

Plenary Session Held on Nuclear Proliferation

SK2904155891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1526 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—A plenary session of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] has begun at the People's Palace of Culture this afternoon.

The agenda items of the plenary session are:

1. Election of the president and vice-presidents of the conference.
2. Consideration of possible requests for inclusion of a supplementary item in the conference agenda.
3. Need to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapens of mass destruction, to ensure the security of all states and to strengthen confidence-building measures in the context of the process of disarmament.
4. Policies to put an end to violence against children and women.
5. General debate on the political, economic and social situation of the world.
6. Amendment to Article 5.2 of the statues of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yang Hyong-sop who is also chairman of the DPRK parliamentry group was elected president of the conference.

The plenary session adopted "Role of Parliaments in Supporting Efforts To Vitalize the Peace Activities in Middle East" proposed by the delegation of the National People's Assembly group of Algeria as a supplementary item.

It started discussing the necessity of preventing the proliferation of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, ensuring the security of all states and strengthening the confidence-building measures in the process of disarmament.

Delegates of national parliamentary groups of different countries took the floor.

Gianfranco Cotti, delegate of Switzerland, stressed the need to stop arms race among nations and prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons at the moment. He held that the countries with nuclear weapons should use nuclear elements only in civilian domains, not for other purposes.

Prospero Nograles, delegate of the Philippines, said all the countries must join hands in their struggle to prevent the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in order to promote peace and security, adding that this is a common task of mankind.

Of particular importance is for the great powers to sign a treaty on universal ban on nuclear testing and implement it, he said, and called for efforts for the signing of this treaty through multilateral negotiations.

Chong Chun-ki, head of the delegation of the DPRK parliamentary group, said the existence of nuclear weapons is one of the fundamental factors that threaten world peace and security and realizing nuclear disarmament remains still a task of top priority in the domain of disarmament.

In order to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the present period, he went on, it is imperative to simultaneously push ahead with the process of strengthening the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty and with the process of creating nuclear-free zones in different parts of the world.

To strengthen the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing must be realized at an early date and an international agreement be signed quickly under which the contracting nations with nuclear weapons shall refrain from using nuclear weapons against those without nuclear weapons or threatening them with nuclear weapons.

Noting that in order to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons it is important for nuclear countries to desist from deploying nuclear weapons in other countries and withdraw the nuclear weapons already deployed there, he said giving priority to the denuclearization of the disputed regions in particular stands out as a more burning issue.

The DPRK regards it as the general goal of disarmament on the Korean peninsula to slash the Armed Forces of the North and the South of Korea respectively to the level of less than 100,000 men and turn the Korean peninsula as a whole into a nuclear-free, peace zone without foreign troops, he said, and stressed:

At present, the DPRK defined it as the immediate way to adopt a nonaggression declaration as the starting point of confidence building to dispel each other's fear, taking into consideration the specific conditions and characteristic features of the situation on the Korean peninsula and the will and interests of both the North and the South, and is striving toward this end.

C. Holding, delegate of Australia, pointed out that even after the adoption of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty some countries are still failing to sign the treaty, the nuclear arsenals of superpowers have extended and new-type weapons are being developed and deployed.

He contended that the nuclear arms race cannot be ended unless a treaty on universal ban on nuclear testing forbidding all countries from nuclear testing for good is signed.

Recalling that the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in his speech at the inaugural meeting of the conference said the large stockpile of nuclear weapons now on the earth is a menace to the survival of mankind itself, he stressed that the conference should deal with this menace.

The session continues.

ROK Delegate Addresses Meeting

SK3004034091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0259 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, April 30 (YONHAP)—A South Korean lawmaker urged North Korea Tuesday to open its nuclear facilities to international inspection and sign the safeguards accord of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

Rep. Cho Sun-sung of the main opposition New Democratic Union, addressing the plenary session of the 85th meeting of the Interparliamentary Union [IPU] at the People's Cultural Palace in the North Korean capital, said nuclear development by nations that do not subscribe to the IAEA accord would cause serious concern in surrounding nations.

Cho did not oppose peaceful use of nuclear power in North Korea, but he said development of nuclear arms would impede peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia.

The South Korean delegation was to give a luncheon for delegates from Asia and the Pacific Tuesday and a dinner for the North Korean delegation, including Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Unification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

DPRK, ROK Air Views on UN Membership

SK3004055791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0513 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, April 30 (YONHAP)—Journalists covering the 85th conference of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) are watching South Korea closely to see how it wiggles its way out of the controversy spawned by the defense minister's remarks on a possible commando attack on North Korean nuclear facilities.

Han Si-hae, vice chairman of the North's Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, said in a dinner for IPU delegates Monday the defense minister's remark "is the most horrendous one since South and North Korea were divided."

"This publicly proves the South has no sincerity behind (inter- Korean) dialogue," Han told reporters at the dinner.

South Korea has sent 25 delegates, including 12 lawmakers, led by Rep. Pak chong-su, to the IPU session. North Korea at one time threatened to deny them entrance because of its anger over Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku's comment earlier this month that Seoul might launch a preemptive strike against Pyongyang's nuclear facilities if it failed to open them to international inspection.

The remark was quickly withdrawn and passed off as misinterpretation, but Han said this made no sense and insisted on an "acceptable" explanation.

Pak had to defend the defense minister's remarks to foreign reporters as well, and he did not mince words. In a news conference earlier Monday, Pak said Yi had withdrawn the comment and North Korea was "dragging out" the issue.

"The defense minister intended to suggest South Korea cannot but retaliate if North Korea attempts an aggression," Pak said. "We will never invade the North, and neither will we be attacked by the North."

Asked about the prospects of Korean unification, he said the Korean situation was vastly different from that of Germany, and the German formula of absorption was unfit for Korea.

"The South-North Korean relationship is not one in which the two sides can absorb and be absorbed. Besides, neither side would stand being absorbed even if it was tried," Pak said.

Optimism was saved for remarks on South Korea's application for U.N. membership.

"China will not be able to veto our membership application, and will abstain in the worst case," he predicted.

Visiting reporters had complaints about North Korea's heavy restrictions on access to people. They said they were completely barred from all but a few main roads.

South Korean lawmakers visiting North Korea cannot decide whether they should welcome or disregard the changes that Pyongyang has suggested in its unification policy.

Some are calling the new approach closer to the South Korean formula, and others are calling it a ploy to confuse people.

A member of the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland has said Pyongyang would accept a logical choice between the South and North Korean unification proposals after negotiations.

The North Korean official also suggested that South Korean President No Tae-u, and ruling and opposition party leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung visit Pyongyang for the negotiations.

Twelve South Korean lawmakers are visiting the North Korean capital to attend the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Union conference that opened Monday.

In meetings with them, North Korean officials have broadly hinted at a confederal system of unification under which, unlike in earlier versions, local governments would have more military and diplomatic authority and have claimed to be open to political negotiations in both bilateral and multilateral forums to discuss the possibilities of their proposals.

According to chief southern delegate Rep. Pak Chong-su, this is closer to the South's unification formula of "one people, two nations."

"North Korea made similar suggestions before, but it's meaningful that it tabled the proposal in meetings with the South Korean delegation," the South's Rep. Pak Kwan-yong said.

"There is no change in the North Korean position," countered compatriot Rep. Chae Mun-sik. "It's a slight hint of flexibility at best."

Rep. Kim Hyun-uk agreed: "There is no visible improvement. It's just an attempt to confuse the people."

Kim Il-song Hosts Banquet for Delegates

SK2904154491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall today in honour of the participants in the 85th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

President Kim Il-song appeared in the banquet hall amid warm welcome of the participants.

Invited to the banquet were Daouda Sow, president of the Inter-Parliamentary Council, Pierre Cornillon, secretary general of the IPU, members of the IPU Executive Committee, the representative of the U.N. secretary-general, delegations and delegates from 86 countries and regions of the world and from some 10 international organizations.

Foreign diplomatic envoys here were invited.

Attending the banquet were Premier Yon Hyong-muk; Vice-President Pak Song-chol; Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam; Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin; Kim Yong-sun, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA); Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the SPA and chairman of the DPRK parliamentary group; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], Chondoist Chongu Party; the delegation of the DPRK parliamentary group headed by Chong Chun-ki, Vice-Chairman of the SPA Foreign Affairs Committee; deputies to the SPA and officials concerned.

Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), was present at the banquet.

Chairman Yang Hyong-sop spoke there.

He said the IPU has, in the past, made great efforts to ensure global peace and security and promote understanding and cooperation among parliaments and parliamentarians of different countries the world over.

The union finds itself in a dignified position in the current international arena thanks to its peaceloving ideal and energetic activities, and it plays an important role in securing a durable peace in the world and promoting cooperation between the nations, he noted, and stressed:

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made an important speech at the inaugural ceremony of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference today giving a deep-going analysis of the obtaining situation and concerning the activities of the union under the prevailing circumstances.

We believe that the Pyongyang conference will be an important occasion conducive to the creation of a new, peaceful and prosperous world by successfully discussing all the items on its agenda.

Noting that the delegates to the 85th IPU conference are goodwill envoys to Korea, Chairman Yang Hyong-sop said the Korean people are very glad to have friends in Pyongyang from abroad.

He expressed the hope that their visits to different places of Korea will enable them to have a better understanding of and friendly feelings towards the Korean people and Korea, and wished them good success in their conference work and a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Korea.

Daouda Sow, president of the Inter-Parliamentary Council, spoke next at the banquet.

He, on behalf of the IPU and its leading bodies and member nations, expressed warm thanks to his excellency Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for arranging the grand banquet for the participants in the conference.

Days of our stay in your beautiful country offer a happy occasion for them to personally experience wonderful hospitality which is widely known and appreciated in the world, he said, and went on:

From the first moment of our arrival in your country we have received everywhere we went welcome consistent with courtesy and kindness the secret of which the land of morning calm alone knows.

As your excellency president also know, the IPU is the biggest assembly of parliamentarians of the world.

The union reflects the will not only of the powerful and developed countries but also of the peoples of all countries which unfortunately find themselves in poverty and backwardness.

Our union is striving to give what little help it can to the people of every and each country in bringing earlier a peaceful and fraternal world on the basis of full-fledged democracy, freedom and absolute equality.

We stand on all fronts of the world struggling for the emancipation of man from all manner of oppression.

This morning we attentively listened with deep interest to the guideline speech which Your Excellency Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, delivered at the inaugural meeting of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary conference.

We express thanks to your excellency president for it.

We came to witness your country making a rapid progress in all fields under the wise leadership of Your Excellency Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

We are well aware of the great painstaking efforts you are exerting consistently to achieve the peaceful reunification of Korea, and sincerely wish such efforts will bear a fruit.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Notified of Summit Stance

SK2904130891 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] This is a report that has just been sent by our delegation from Pyongyang. Our side's delegation has just filed the report that this evening Pak Chong-su, head of our side's delegation, while at a banquet arranged by the North Koreans for the delegations of various countries, notified President Kim Il-song of our government's position on holding North-South summit talks.

Further on Inter-Korean Summit

SK2904132891 Seoul YONHAP in English 1318 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (YONHAP)—Senior South Korean delegate to the 85th General Meeting of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Rep. [Representative] Pak Chong-su, Monday asked North Korean President Kim Il-song to hold an inter-Korean summit.

Pak, chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, made the proposal to Kim during a reception hosted by the North Korean leader in honor of the delegations of the paticipating countries at Kumsusan Presidential Palace.

Twelve South Korean lawmakers are attending the meeting, which will continue through Saturday in Pyongyang.

Japan

Finance Minister Attends IMF Committe Meeting

Presents Special Drawing Rights Plan

OW2904165591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1542 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Washington, April 29 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on Monday suggested that special drawing rights (SDRs) be allocated to indebted nations "under strict conditions."

Hashimoto came up with the proposal at an interim committee meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The SDR is a measure of a nation's reserve assets in the international monetary system, known informally as "paper gold." It is designed to supplement the reserves of gold and convertible currencies (or hard currencies) used to maintain stability in the foreign exchange market.

Hashimoto said it is "essential" to address the looming global imbalance of demand and supply of resources as a major issue of the current world economy.

"I am particularly attracted to the idea of establishing a facility to extend support to countries implementing an economic adjustment program with a strong determination, but which are suffering a temporary liquidity problem," he said.

In the past Japan took a rather cautious stance toward the allocation of SDRs, Hashimoto said, adding this was mostly due to the lack of a scheme in which the use of SDRs carried strict conditions.

"I have come to think that it would be possible to change our basic position if a certain device can be put in place in this regard," Hashimoto said.

He said the idea of an allocation of SDRs and related measures should not detract from the consensus on the IMF's ninth general quota increase and acceptance of the third amendment of the articles of agreement.

These measures should be implemented only after the quota increase takes effect, he said.

Hashimoto Warns Against Debt Writeoffs

OW3004014491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0058 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Kazuo Mikami]

[Text] Washington, April 29 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on Monday warned against forgiveness of the official debt of lower-middle-income indebted nations and sought stepped-up self-help efforts.

Speaking at the afternoon session of the International Monetary Fund's [IMF] policymaking interim committee, Hashimoto stressed the need to deal with the question "with utmost care."

He said official debt writeoffs could discourage the self-reliant efforts of debtor nations now working diligently to repay their debt.

In the attempt to solve the debt issues of the poorest nations, the provision of official new money could have the same economic implication as that of official debt reduction in enhancing the net flow of resources, Hashimoto said.

In this context, it's essential that the option of debt rescheduling be left open because it has the same effect as supplying new money, he said.

The finance minister said each debtor nation needs to enhance its own domestic savings with the appropriate macroeconomic and economic adjustment policies.

Referring to price deregulation, the introduction of competitive principles, and implementation of other economic reforms in East European nations, he described such efforts as "the labor pains" involved in giving birth to a free and affluent society.

Then he called on Central and East European nations to carry out the necessary political and economic reforms.

Charles Dallara, U.S. assistant treasury secretary for international affairs told the same session that the Brady plan has been performing well. The plan was drawn up by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady as the new Third World debt strategy in March 1989.

He cited Mexico and Venezuela as offering examples of Brady plan- based improvements.

Pierre Beregovoy, French minister of state for the economy, noted financial aid to Eastern Europe is conducive to promoting "democratization" in Eastern Europe and developing nations.

The 22-nation IMF interim committee meeting ends on Tuesday morning with the adoption of a communique.

Delegate To Participate in UN Monitoring Group

OW3004131091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1133 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO—Japan will send a representative to a United Nations commission that will monitor Iraq's destruction of its arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, Foreign Ministry officials said Tuesday.

Officials said Japan would be represented by Ken Adachi, who is a special asssistant to Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, a specialist on chemical weaponry and former lieutanant general in the Ground Self-Defense Force.

The ad hoc commission, appointed by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cueller on April 22 and headed by Swedish diplomat and disarmament expert Rolf Ekeus, will assess whether Iraq's weapons of mass destruction have been destroyed before allowing it to resume exports of oil.

Its activities will be based on Iraq's April 3 acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 687, which says Iraq must unconditionally accept the destruction or removal of all chemical and biological weapons and ballistic missiles with a range of more than 150 kilometers.

Officials said Japan hopes its representation on the commission will be taken as another example of its willingness to contribute to U.N. peace efforts not on [words indistinct] but by offering personnel.

The U.N. was set to announce later in the day the makeup of the commission, which officials said would consist of disarmament experts from some 25 countries.

Talks With DPRK Scheduled in Beijing 20-21 May

OW3004033491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0323 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO—Japan and North Korea will hold a third round of normalization talks in Beijing on May 20-21, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

The two countries held the first round of talks in Pyongyang in January and the second round in Tokyo in March.

They remain divided over North Korea's demand for compensation for postwar "losses" allegedly inflicted by Japan as well as for Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula, and over Japan's insistence that North Korea allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

DPRK Requests 'Indefinite Postponement' of Talks

OW3004124291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO—North Korea has requested an indefinite postponement in planned talks with Japan over its towering arrears for Japanese exports, trade sources said Tuesday.

The two countries were to negotiate Pyongyang's nearly 80 billion yen worth of debts to Japan, the largest stumbling block to improved bilateral relations, in late May in Shanghai.

The sources said that North Korea, well aware of the importance of the problem, will not desire a long deferment.

In recent preliminary talks on the problem, North Korea called on Japan to reschedule its 76.8 billion yen debt, asking for a 10-year moratorium on repayment and a 15-year repayment schedule thereafter.

Japan spurned the request, pressing for a five-year repayment.

But the two sides agreed on the Shanghai talks, the first full- scale negotiations on the thorny issue since the fall of 1987, in a bid to accelerate efforts to normalize frosty Tokyo-Pyongyang ties.

The planned talks were to be held between the North Korean Foreign Trade Bank and a Japanese group of 37 trading houses, manufacturers, and banks.

North Korea's total external debt is estimated at more than 5 billion dollars, and includes debts to European countries and the Soviet Union, as well as to Japan.

Payment of those owed Japan, mostly denominated in the German mark, has been halted since 1985, with talks over the rescheduling at an impasse since 1987 because of worsened political relations.

ROK Foreign Minister Continues Tokyo Visit

SK2604015591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0033 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 (YONHAP)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu reaffirmed Thursday his government's positive support for South Korea's solo bid for U.N. membership this fall if North Korea continues to reject simultaneous entry to the world body.

"Our government believes the Republic of Korea's admission to the United Nations will contribute to stabilizing the political situation on the Korean peninsula and easing tension in Northeast Asia," he told Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok during talks in his office.

Meeting earlier with Yi, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama also promised positive support for Seoul's U.N. entry.

Seoul plans to apply for membership this year if Pyongyang still spurn its offer to join the world body together. North Korea contends separate membership would perpetuate the division of Korea, split into the capitalist South and communist North in 1945 and hostile neighbors since the Korean war 1950-53.

Nakayama and Yi agreed that North Korea should sign the International Atomic Energy Agency's Nuclear Safeguards Accord before normalizing relations with Japan. Japan has diplomatic relations with the South but not the North. Improvement of ties between South Korea and the communist bloc prompted normalization talks between Japan and North Korea.

The two ministers also agreed to hold high-level policy talks in Seoul June 12-14 and to open tripartite policy consultations among Seoul, Washington and Tokyo. The three-way dialogue, at this stage only a proposal, would be expected to focus on policies to counter the Soviet drive for influence in Asia and the Pacific.

While touring Japan and South Korea, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev proposed a multilateral security arrangement for the Asia- Pacific region last week, but heard reserved responses from Kaifu and South Korean President No Tae-u.

Yi will take his agreement with Nakayama on tripartite talks to Washington to discuss it April 30 with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Yi was to leave for the United States on Friday afternoon.

Cambodia's Hun Sen Receives Letter in Tokyo

BK2704074091 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] The cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, PICC, have presented a letter to Cambodian Premier Hun Sen with the hope that there will no problems at next month's meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. The joint letter written by French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas was yesterday presented to Hun Sen in Tokyo, where he is undergoing medical treatment. The letter was handed over to Hun Sen by French Ambassador to Japan Louis Heineke and Indonesian charge d'affaires Zainuddin Rahman.

The letter, which contains the agenda of the SNC meeting in Jakarta, will discuss disarmament of the warring Cambodian factions and efforts to prevent the return of the Khmer Rouge's genocidal policy. The two issues were not solved in the last SNC meeting in Paris last December.

Hun Sen has been staying in Tokyo since 20 April and is scheduled to leave Japan for Thailand today.

Ikeda, Canadian Defense Ministers Meet in Ottawa

OW3004043591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0250 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Ottawa, April 29 KYODO—Canadian Defense Minister Marcel Masse, in talks with Japanese Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda on Monday, requested that Japan contribute to United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Masse met Ikeda for two-and-a-half hours of discussions during which Masse said that Canada hopes Japan can formulate an appropriate role within which to contribute to UN peacekeeping operations.

Ikeda did not give an explicit response to the Canadian minister on the issue, but used the meeting to seek Canada's views as a participant in such UN operations.

Ikeda told Masse that Japan is dispatching four minesweepers and two support vessels to the Persian Gulf as its contribution to the cleanup in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

Masse told Ikeda the minesweepers were a valuable contribution.

Masse also indicated that Canada has a strong interest in a collective defense arrangement for the Asia-Pacific region and would like to join Japan in expanding bilateral exchanges of personnel and opinions on defense matters.

Ikeda told Masse that Japan would like to see further cooperation between defense staff of the two countries.

Ikeda left for Washington later Monday for talks with U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney.

Former Prime Minister Leaves for PRC Visit

OW3004015591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0145 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone left for China on Tuesday morning to attend a ceremony to open a Japan-China youth center in Beijing on Friday.

During his eight-day stay in China, Nakasone will also meet Premier Li Peng and other Chinese leaders in Beijing and visit northeastern China.

Nakasone is scheduled to return home on May 7.

Hungarian Democratic Forum Group Continues Visit

LD2604225691 Budapest MTI in English 1841 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 (MTI)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, meeting a delegation of the Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) on Friday, encouraged Hungary to advance along the road towards the establishment of a market-driven economy.

Balazs Horvath, minister without portfolio, informed the prime minister on Hungary's current situation, stressing that the "political system is stable and the democratic changes are irreversible". Horvath said that "the law on partial compensation had settled the issue of property rights in a reassuring way". Horvath emphasized that Hungary would continue to meet its payment obligations towards Japan and did not wish to follow Poland's example. Toshiki Kaifu noted these remarks approvingly.

The Japanese prime minister said he was looking forward to his meeting with Prime Minister Jozsef Antall in Japan in September.

The five-member delegation includes Balazs Horvath, Lajos Fur, minister of defence, Imre Konya, head of the parliamentary group, Imre Furmann, general deputy president of the HDF, and MP Zoltan Bogardi.

During its stay in Japan, the delegation met Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

The hosting Sasakawa Peace Foundation organized a non-official meeting between Lajos Fur and Yukihiko Ikeda, director-general of the defence agency. The sides raised the idea of holding regular consultations on security affairs since the two countries are dealing with similar questions in several cases. Fur referred to the two countries, non-bloc status and the maintenance of an exclusively defensive army. Hungary is interested in the ways in which Japan maintains its professional army, since it also has in mind to establish a professional army. The Japanese side proposed that the two countries delegate military attaches to their embassies.

The HDF delegation was most probably the first East European one to be taken to the Iruma military base and shown the technology and aircraft stationed there. The base was returned to Japan's defence forces by the U.S. Army in 1950.

SDPJ's Doi Gives News Conference on Elections

OW2704033591 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 23 Apr

[Text] At a news conference this afternoon in the Diet, Takako Doi, chairperson of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], said that the party leadership should bear responsibility for the defeat in the recent unified local government elections, but for the time being they would instead work hard to reform the party.

At the news conference, the chairperson said: Our party suffered a devastating defeat in the recent unified local government elections. I think that as the chairperson, I myself should take the responsibility for it. We should sternly accept the people's severe judgment in the elections as a verdict and should renew our resolve to drastically reform the party. The Central Executive Committee is responsible for the results of the elections. In the past, the party has reshuffled the leadership whenever they have been held to account for election defeats. This time, however, the party will not reshuffle the present leadership and the leadership will work vigorously to make the SDPJ a new party.

As to how to reform the party, the chairperson said that the Central Executive Committee, scheduled to be held on 25 April, would decide on whether to create a reform committee or to let the present Central Executive Committee work on party reform. She also said that party reform is a priority task, adding that the party will face a hot summer toward autumn. Thus, she hinted that her party plans to move up this year's convention from December to autumn to discuss party reform and personnel changes.

Official Remarks on Neutral Macroeconomic Policy

OW2604125691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Japan will retain its neutral macroeconomic policy, Vice Finance Minister Masami Kogayu said Friday, shrugging off news reports that Japan is moving to ease credit in concert with other major industrialized countries.

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, in a meeting with U.S. President George Bush in Washington late Thursday, reportedly agreed to Bush's call for a joint cut in interest rates by major economies.

Kogayu, implying that Bush was not pressing for an actual relaxation in credit, told a press conference that Bush was only stating the U.S. view that lower interest rates are needed to ease an acute worldwide money shortage.

"And it is another question what stance Japan takes," he said, ruling out the possibility of a loosening of credit in the immediate future.

Apparently in a bid to encourage the Federal Reserve Board to ease credit to shore up the anemic U.S. economy, Washington has been mounting a campaign for lower interest rates, arguing that the risk of an economic recession is a bigger concern for the global economy than lingering inflationary pressure.

The vice finance minister also voiced concern over reports that the White House is willing to back a reciprocal finance law, claiming this would damage the principle of the free financial market.

The Fair Trade in Financial Services Act would authorize reciprocal action against countries that fail to open their financial markets to U.S. financial institutions.

"We would like to frankly convey our concern to the U.S. Government," he said.

Reports say that the White House, originally opposed to the bill, is now supporting it.

Firms Cautious About Investment in East Europe

OW3004133591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1136 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 30 KYODO— Most Japanese enterprises have taken a cautious attitude toward investment in East European countries, due largely to political and economic instability, an influential business organization reported Tuesday

The Japan Federation of Corporate Executives, or Keizai Doyukai, said its report was based on a recent survey of attitudes toward the changing situations in six East European nations, conducted among 147 member corporations.

The report said 69.9 percent of the respondents said they do not regard East European nations as potential investment targets.

These companies listed political and economic instability and insufficient legal protections for their investments as major negative factors, the survey said.

The report also said 43.5 percent of the responding firms said they had studied investment opportunities in the region through their operations bases in surrounding countries.

Nearly half the enterprises surveyed urged the Japanese Government to conclude investment protection agreements with East European countries and to establish an aid system corresponding to the existing official development assistance or ODA, which does not apply to the formerly communist countries.

The report advised the government to institute a framework for economic support for Eastern Europe to help Japanese enterprises provide management knowhow, assist in development projects and increase imports from the region.

Company To Help Modernize USSR Railway System

OW2604135091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1317 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—East Japan Railways Co. said Friday it has agreed to give 28 used diesel-powered railway cars and one unmotorized passenger coach to the Soviet Union to help modernize the Soviet railway system.

The company said it also agreed to cooperate in developing the tourism industry on Sakhalin Island and in the Lake Baikal region in the Soviet Far East.

The agreement was reached in negotiations with a five-member delegation of the Soviet Railway Transport Ministry led by Igor V. Kharlanovich, director of the ministry's Science and Technology Department.

The company said the Soviet Union will shoulder transportation costs.

The Soviet mission arrived in Tokyo Monday for business negotiations with East Japan Railways Co., one of seven regional railway firms in the JR [Japan Rail] group created through the privatization of the Japanese national railways in 1987.

East Japan Railways officials said the company is ready to provide a total of 80 second hand diesel-powered cars and 50 passenger coaches to the Soviet Union in fiscal 1991, ending March 31, 1992.

They said the company will send a team of experts to the Soviet Far East to conduct surveys on ways to attract tourists from Japan.

The officials said the two sides will continue discussions on a Soviet request to the Japanese company to provide bookings service for the Soviet Union's state-run railways.

TV Network, USSR Station Sign Agreement

OW3004072291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Niigata, April 30 KYODO—The Niigata-based commercial television network TNN has signed a broadcasting cooperation agreement with the television and radio board of Irkutsk State Television in East Siberia, a TNN spokesman said Tuesday.

TNN is the second Japanese television network after the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) Kanazawa Station to sign such an agreement with the Soviet broadcaster.

The agreement allows for a monthly exchange of news, mutual assistance in filming, program production, and satellite broadcasts, and joint planning and sponsorship of events.

The cities of Irkutsk, on the western shore of Lake Baikal, and Niigata, on the Japan Sea, will share another link in June with the inauguration of regular direct flights by the Soviet airline Aeroflot between the two cities.

Car Exports to U.S. Fall Short of Quota

OW2604114291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0854 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Japanese car exports to the United States in fiscal 1990 fell short of an annual quota of 2.3 million vehicles for the fourth straight year, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association reported Friday.

The association said brisk exports to Europe and Asia helped to make up for sluggish sales to the U.S.

The association said Japan's exports of motor vehicles in the year ended last March 31 totaled 5,820,976 vehicles, up 0.1 percent over the preceding year.

Car exports to the U.S. fell 5.4 percent to 1,849,631 vehicles, the association said.

When commercial vehicles are included, exports to the United States were down 7.5 percent to 2,201,575 vehicles, the association said.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has decided to maintain the quota for exports to the U.S. under a "voluntary restraint agreement" at 2.3 million vehicles in the current fiscal year, which began on April 1.

The association said exports of cars and commercial vehicles to Europe rose 4.7 percent to 1,773,469 vehicles, with shipments to the European Community accounting for 1,309,360 vehicles, up 7.1 percent.

Exports to Southeast Asian nations surged 13.3 percent to 583,907 vehicles, the association said.

Sales to Middle East countries soared 24.9 percent to 283,574 vehicles due to increases in shipments to nations other than Iraq and Kuwait.

In March, the association said, motor vehicle exports decreased 8.5 percent from a year before to 505,340 vehicles, reflecting sluggish sales to the United States.

It was the first time in six months that Japanese vehicle exports had fallen from the year-earlier level, the association said.

North Korea

Opening, Issues of IPU Conference Hailed

*SK2904061591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0520 GMT 29 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today hails the opening of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference here.

We sincerely hope that the conference will be held successfully and the participants will spend useful days while staying in Korea, the editorial article says, and continues:

The Interparliamentary Union [IPU] has made wide-range efforts to suit its mission and goal.

For its peace-orientated activities, the IPU takes a due position in the international arena and plays a positive role in ensuring world peace and in the efforts for the development of human civilization and the development of cooperation among nations.

The Pyongyang conference will discuss the issues of preventing the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, guaranteeing the security of all the states, taking intensive measures for confidence-building in the process of disarmament and putting an end to abuses against children and women, and the world political, economic and social situation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Now the world peaceloving people are deeply concerned over the proliferation and stockpile of nuclear weapons in different areas of the world.

In order to prevent a new world war and save mankind from the holocaust of a nuclear war, it is imperative to prohibit the production and test of nuclear weapons and their stockpile and use in all parts of the world and finally eliminate all the nuclear weapons".

It is of weighty significance at present in removing the danger of a nuclear war and ensuring world peace and security to prevent the proliferation of the nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and realise disarmament.

The Korean peninsula is fraught with the greatest danger of a nuclear war.

Our Republic, proceeding from the strong sense of responsibility for world peace, has put forward many proposals for disarmament and a solid peace on the Korean peninsula and has made sincere efforts to this end.

We believe that the foreign friends participating in the Pyongyang conference will pay deep attention to the situation of the Korean peninsula and do something helpful towards removing the nuclear threat from this region and achieving peace and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The human rights problem has become one of the crucial matters in the international life.

In Korea human rights are fully guaranteed by law and the Korean people enjoy their human rights substantially.

Ours is a peculiar, man-centred socialism which fully meets the independent and creative, instrinsic demand of man.

We are convinced that the Pyongyang conference will be an occasion that helps many foreign friends get a better understanding of our country and deepen feelings of friendship with the Korean people.

ROK Politician Asks Meeting With Delegation

*SK2904052491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0506 GMT 29 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—Kim Hwi-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon provincial district committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", on a visit to the northern half of the country, on April 28 said as follows upon the opening of the 85th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Pyongyang:

"National assemblymen" of South Korea have come to Pyongyang without satisfying any of the three demands including the abrogation of the "National Security Law" which I had made at a press conference. I cannot repress indignation at this.

If it were a "National Assembly" representing the will of the people, it must not fail to look straight at the reality.

I doubt if the "national assemblymen" of South Korea are truly interested in peace and reunification.

In this connection, I want to meet and converse with them on this occasion.

He expressed the hope that reunification through confederation advanced by President Kim Il-song will be realized at an early date so that the 70 million people may live a peaceful and happy life.

Reaction to Death of ROK Student Reported

Joint Statement Issued on Death

SK2804092291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and the Korean Student Committee issued a joint statement today denouncing the South Korean authorities for having beaten to death with an iron club Kang Kyong-tae, student of Myongji University in Seoul, who was participating in a peaceful demonstration on the campus on April 26.

The statement said:

The No Tae-u military fascist clique killed the student before the eyes of many people in broad daylight. This is a most overt butchery and a most wanton violation of human rights and democracy.

The murder was not an accident or carelessness of some policemen but a direct outcome of the savageness and fascist rule of the "sixth republic" engaged in suppression and murder of people.

This is not the first time the No Tae-u clique murdered patriotic students involved in the righteous struggle for independence, democracy and reunification in South Korea.

The No Tae-u group which killed in cold blood thousands of fellow countrymen and plunged the whole land of Kwangju into a sea of blood has committed butcheries against the nation by brutally killing countless students and patriotic people for the past four years since it framed up the "Sixth Republic Government" with the blood-stained hands.

Under the murderous orders of the traitor No Tae-u, police break into campus any time, fire guns and wield lethal weapons and injure and kill student protesters with tear gas bombs on the spot.

On April 19 alone, police fired tear gas canisters at Yu Chol-kun, a fourth year student of Wongwang University, and Chong Chin-tae, a third year student of Kyongnam University, on the head within a 15 metres distance and heavily injured them.

The murder of the patriotic student this time is a heinous criminal act without precedent not only in the history of fascist repression in South Korea but also in any other parts of the world.

The No Tae-u military fascist clique, content with large-scale joint military maneuvers with outside forces, extremely aggravated the inter-Korean relations with bellicose outburst threatening to dispatch "commandoes" and "surprise and destroy the nuclear facilities of the North" while resorting to unheard-of fascistization and killing a patriotic student holding a righteous demonstration on the spot in South Korea. This clearly shows that the No group is a gang of truculent murderers surpassing by far the "dictatorship of the Fifth Republic" and the "Yusin dictatorship".

The No Tae-u group's fascist moves backed by the U.S. imperialists are a last-ditch effort to stifle the mounting anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle of the patriotic students and people and the movement of national reunification and bridge over the ruling crisis of the "Sixth Republic Government" sitting on a time bomb.

Fascism and murder cannot save the group from the crisis of destruction and will only precipitate the ruin of the dictator.

Although the fascist murderers may kill a patriotic student today, they will face a miserable doom by the revengers.

The mastermind of the murder of Kang Kyong-tae is none other than the traitor No Tae-u.

The No Tae-u group must step down at once, assuming the responsibility for the murder, as strongly demanded by the South Korean students and people rather than foolishly attempt to save the situation by "scolding" somebody.

The South Korean students must not allow the blood shed by their fellow students to go fruitless but revenge them on the murderers a thousand fold.

We take this opportunity to express the belief that the international student organizations, youth and student organizations and political and public circles of all countries that love justice and truth will lift up louder voices denouncing the No Tae-u military fascist clique's suppression of South Korean students and continue expressing active support and solidarity for the patriotic students' just struggle.

Beating Death Called 'Butchery'

SK3004055891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today denounce the South Korean military fascist clique for beating to death with iron clubs Kang Kyong-tae, 20, holding a peaceful demonstration in the university town on April 26 in demand of the release of arrested students. The papers brand it as a butchery and murder without precedent in brutality and savageness.

The news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

Unable to conceal the fact that fascist police murdered the student, the No Tae-u fascist group started a conjuring operation to save the situation and lull the people's opposition and protest ridiculously detaining some policemen and holding a person responsible with a fuss over "self-investigation" and "joint investigation."

But, the murder of Kang Kyong-tae is not an accident caused by some policemen but an inevitable result of the fascist system built on the blood and corpses of people and the "security-oriented rule" and violent politics of the No Tae-u murderous "regime." It is not merely a murder of a student but an act of murder against the anti- U.S. independent reunification movement of the South Korean people.

It is with the backing of the U.S. imperialist aggressors forcing a colonial fascist rule on South Korea that the No Tae-u fascist group indiscriminately arrests, tortures and kills patriotic students and people without hesitation, lording it over the people.

As long as the U.S. domination over South Korea continues and such a murderer as No Tae-u remains in power, tragic incidents like the murder of Kang Kyong-tae will occur continuously in South Korea and the reunification of the country desired by the entire fellow countrymen cannot be realised. The extension of the No Tae-u "regime" means the continuation of the misfortunes, sufferings and disasters of the South Korean people.

The No Tae-u group must look straight at the trend of the times, stop the crackdown on the patriotic students and people and immediately step down, bearing responsibilityn for the murder of Kang Kyong-tae.

Youth, Students Hold Meeting

SK3004110291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Youth and students in Pyongyang held a meeting today to denounce the No Tae-u ruling group's brutal murder of Kang Kyong-tae, a student of Myongji University of South Korea, who was participating in a peaceful demonstration.

Speaking at the meeting, Kim Song-chol, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, said the brutal murder of student Kang Kyong-tae was not an accidental mishap caused by a few policemen but a direct outcome of the cruel and barbarian military fascist rule of the present "regime of the Sixth Republic" which is bent on suppression and murder of people.

This brutal murder is a shocking tragedy caused by the truculent murderous rule pursued by the No group so far, he said, and stressed:

It is impossible to put an end to the tragic bloodshed of the people in South Korea or save people from the disasters of an imminent war as long as the No ruling group is left alone, which, not content with the provocative war maneuvers they were staging in league with outside forces against the fellow countrymen, let out a bellicose war blast threatening to "surprise and destroy" the "north's nuclear facilities" with "commandos," thereby carrying the North-South relations to the worst phase, and clubbed a patriotic student to death on the scene of a peaceful demonstration, while resorting to unheard-of suppression within.

No Tae-u's military dictatorship which murdered student Kang Kyong-tae can never go scotfree. It should be recalled that the cold-blooded murder of student Kim Chu-yol 31 years ago gave rise to the April 19 popular uprising and finally led to the fall of the Syngman Rhee dictatorship, that the fascist hangmen's torture-murder of student Pak Chong-chol four years ago touched off the June people's resistance and landed the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist dictatorship in a catastrophic crisis.

The South Korean students and people will no longer be fooled by the No Tae-u fascist ruling group, but they will mete out a stern judgement on the murderers in the name of the martyr Kang Kyong-tae, in the name of all the people in the South who aspire after independence, democracy and reunification.

Representatives of youth of different strata spoke at the meeting.

They vehemently condemned the shuddering murder of student Kang by the fascist authorities as a downright challenge to the people's desire for independence, democracy and reunification, as a heinous act of strangling human rights and democracy.

The meeting was frequently interrupted by the shouts "Down with No Tae-u, the murderer,!" and "Let's make them pay a thousand fold for the blood shed by the South Korean patriotic martyrs!"

Meetings for Soccer Matches With South Reported

SK2704104891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 27 Apr 91

["Contact Held Between Liaison Officials of North and South for Matches To Select Players of Unified Korea Soccer Team"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—The spokesman of the Football Association of the DPRK answered a question of KCNA about the results of the contact of liaison officials of the two sides to the Working Committee of the Unified Korea Soccer Team held on April 26.

He said:

Four rounds of contact of liaison officials of the two sides were held in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom from April 1 to 26 to discuss and confirm the working matters related to the appraisal matches to select players of the unified Korea team for the Sixth World Youth Soccer Championships.

At the contact, the South side laid obstacles by raising unreasonable demands concerning the members of the team, the place of on-site training abroad, the date of departure for the training site, etc. Upon which the two sides had already agreed at the working committee of the unified team. But it was compelled to withdraw its demands and a full agreement was reached on the matters discussed thanks to the consistent and sincere efforts of our side to form the unified team at any cost.

The following points were agreed upon at the contact of liaison officials:

At the contact, the sides agreed to select the players of the unified Korea team through appraisal matches.

The appraisal matches will be held in public once in Pyongyang and once in Seoul between two mixed teams, each team consisting of nine players from the North and nine from the South.

The first match will take place at the Olympic Stadium in Seoul on the afternoon of May 4, 1991 (Saturday) and the second one at the May Day stadium in Pyongyang on the afternoon of May 8 (Wednesday). The host side will provide an international referee.

The selection of players will be finalized at the Working Committee of the Unified Korea Soccer Team after the two appraisal matches, nine excellent players each from the North and the South.

With regard to the stay of the North and South teams in the other side's area for appraisal matches, the North side team will stay in Seoul four days and three nights from May 2 to 5, 1991 for a joint training and the first match, and the South side's team in Pyongyang four days and three nights from May 6 to 9 for a joint training and second match.

It was also agreed at the contact that the Unified Korea soccer team will arrive in Portugal, the venue of the Sixth World Youth Soccer Championships, on May 21 and hold familiarizing training and warm-up matches abroad before the opening of the championships.

At the fourth round of contact on April 26, the North side handed to the South side the list of the names of its members to go to Seoul and received a memorandum on the guarantee of the safety of our members from the South side.

Revision of Soccer Team Schedule Proposed

SK3004042091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Telephone message sent by Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the DPRK Soccer Association, to Kim U-chung, South Korean counterpart—read by announcer]

[Text] All athletes of the North and the South and all fellow countrymen expect to field a single Korean soccer team in the 6th World Junior Soccer Championships. The first round of a soccer team tryouts to select the best players are scheduled be held in Seoul on 4 May.

Our junior soccer players attached great importance to the tryouts which will be held for the first time since the country was divided 46 years ago, and, they are preparing to leave Pyongyang for Seoul.

However, with only a few days left before the soccer team tryouts, a student of Myongji University was murdered on the street in Seoul. For this reason, the atmosphere of Seoul—the site of the first round of the soccer tryouts—is becoming more restless as the days go by.

Judging from the current atmosphere in Seoul, I decided that it would be difficult to smoothly hold the soccer tryouts. I cordially propose to you that the schedule be revised as follows: As has already been agreed upon by both sides, the soccer tryouts should be held first in Pyongyang on 8 May; and then, the next tryouts should be held in Seoul after the funeral of the sacrificed student.

I expect that you will positively respond to this.

Nuclear-Free Peninsula Said 'Urgent Task'

SK3004110491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 30 Apr 91

["Urgent Task To Convert Korean Peninsula Into Nuclear-Free, Peace Zone"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone is a most pressing and important task to remove the danger of a nuclear war and achieve a durable peace in Korea and guarantee peace in Asia and the rest of the world, says NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article headlined "Urgent Task To Convert Korean Peninsula Into Nuclear-Free, Peace Zone".

It is not accidental that the world is focusing attenton on the Korean peninsula today when the prevention of a nuclear war is a vital matter of mankind, it says, and continues:

The reason is that South Korea has turned into a nuclear base, the largest in the Far East and the Korean peninsula is a most dangerous hotbed of a nuclear war.

It is known to the world that there are more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons of various types in South Korea. The United States has recognised this and voices that there are 1,120 nuclear warheads in South Korea rang out from the "National Assembly" of South Korea.

The United States is to blame for the conversion of the Korean peninsula into a most perilous hotbed of a nuclear war.

Originally, the U.S. policy of turning South Korea into a nuclear base has been started from 30 odd years ago.

There are deployed in South Korea nuclear arms of nearly all kinds the United States has so far developed and produced, from "nuclear weapons of the first generation" including planes capable of carrying nuclear bombs, nuclear shells and nuclear warheads and various kinds of missiles to neutron bombs, "nuclear weapon of the third generation".

It is known that more than one nuclear weapon per one hundred square kilometres is deployed in South Korea, four times the NATO area which has one nuclear weapon per four hundred square kilometres in terms of the density of deployment. Its threat is far greater.

Disarmament is being realised and nuclear weapons cut in some parts of the world in the global trend of disarmament and detente, but only in South Korea more war means including nuclear weapons are being deployed and nuclear bases built on an extensive scale

It is clear that if a war breaks out in the Korean peninsula where more than 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed, it will easily become a total nuclear war.

All facts clearly show that the conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone is a pressing task to remove the danger of a nuclear war from Korea and, furthermore, guarantee peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Removal of 'Concrete Wall' Between Koreas Urged

SK2904225291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1501 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—The concrete wall, a symbol of national division and confrontation and a shame to the nation, must be removed, demands NODONG SINMUN Sunday.

The paper says in a signed article:

The concrete wall built along the Military Demarcation Line bisects 122 villages and eight counties into North and South and totally blocks three railway tracks, four big rivers and about 220 big and small roads. It is a barrier of permanent division built by the United States and the South Korean authorities to cut the blood veins of the homogeneous Korean nation and create "two Koreas."

This is a symbol of national division and North-South confrontation and a physical barrier to keep the North and the South in complete seclusion from each other.

The South Korean rulers used 800,000 tons of cement, 200,000 tons of steel and 3.5 million cubic metres of mixtures in building this gigantic concrete wall 10-19 metres wide at the bottom, 3-7 metres wide at the top and 5-8 metres high.

The concrete wall is a product of the policy of national division and confrontation persistently pursued by the United States and the South Korean authorities.

Chon Tu-hwan who played a major role in the concrete wall project beginning in 1977 had this to say: "What do we build this wall for? We say outwardly it is to guard against 'threat from the North' but it is a camouflage tactic. Frankly speaking, it is for internal security, that is, to block the people's aspiration to reunification and the mounting tendency toward reunification. Our plan is to build a high concrete wall and make those who wish reunification give up their purpose."

As seen above, the concrete wall is designed to perpetuate the division of the country and the separation of the people, crush the spirit of reunification mounting among the South Korean people and incite North-South confrontation in accordance with the "two Koreas" policy of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

As long as this wall is left intact, it is impossible to realise free travel and complete opening between the North and the South, national reconciliation and unity and the reunification of the country.

The South Korean authorities must pull down the concrete wall, a symbol of national division and confrontation and a shame to the nation, rather than try to keep the wall, contending that it is an "anti-tank barricade."

Yi Chong-ok Departs for SRV, Laos, India

SK2604112891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1051 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—A DPRK Government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok left here today to visit Vietnam, Laos and India.

It was sent off at the airport by Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam, other officials concerned and Vietnamese, Indian and Chinese ambassadors to Korea.

SPA Chairman Meets Arrival of Cuban Delegation

SK2604115491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1058 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the National Assembly of the People's Power of Cuba headed by its President Juan Escalona Reguera arrived in Pyongyang today for a goodwill visit to our country at the invitation of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) of the DPRK. It was met at the airport by Chairman of the SPA Yang Hyong-sop, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Song Ho-kyong and Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega.

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Visit Army Unit

SK2604155191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1520 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today visited Unit 499 of the Korean People's Army [KPA] to congratulate the officers and men of the KPA on the 59th anniversary of the founding of the heroic Korean People's Army.

When President Kim Il-song arrived at the unit, the soldiers of the unit warmly welcomed him with a storm of cheers "hurrah!"

He was accompanied by Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], first vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, member of the party Central Military Commission and secretary of the party Central Committee; Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council; Chon Pyong-ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, member of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Han Song-yong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and Kim Chol-man, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK central committee and member of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

President Kim Il-song was greeted on the spot by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, member of the party Central Military Commission and minister of People's Armed Forces; Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK, member of the party Central Military Commission and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army; KPA generals Im Kwang-chin and Kim Pong-yul, members of the WPK Central Committee and members of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK; KPA Colonel General Yi Pong-won, member of the WPK Central Committee; and generals and officers of the KPA and commanding officers of the unit.

President Kim Il-song was presented with bouquet of flowers carrying the boundless reverence of the officers and men of the KPA.

A ceremony to greet President Kim Il-song took place at the unit.

After the playing of the national anthem, he reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the KPA

He warmly congratulated the officers and men of the KPA on the 59th birthday of the KPA.

He inspected combat technical equipment after acquainting himself with the military training of the soldiers of the unit who were fully preparing themselves to be soldiers each being a match for a hundred foes.

Through the military training, the soldiers of the unit showed well the revolutionary will and invincible militant spirit of our People's Army which resolutely defends the party's cause by force of arms, casting in its lot with the party forever.

President Kim Il-song expressed great satisfaction with the People's Army boundlessly faithful to the party and the revolution creditably discharging its honorable duty and mission as the dependable defender of our party's cause, the cause of socialism, and gave highly important instructions which would serve as the guidelines in further strengthening and developing the People's Army into an invincible revolutionary armed force.

President Kim Il-song, in company with the members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, had a picture taken with the officers and men of the unit.

KPA Lauded as 'Boundlessly Loyal' to Leader

SK3004073591 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0016 GMT 24 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 25 April special article: "Our People's Army Is Revolutionary Armed Force Boundlessly Loyal to the Party and Leader"]

[Text] Our People's Army is the army of the party, an army of the revolution.

Our People's Army is now satisfactorily fulfilling its glorious mission as revolutionary armed forces boundlessly loyal to our party. In this way, the party and the army in our country have formed a integrated whole which no force on earth can break up and the party's cause is resolutely defended and safeguarded by the armed forces.

The officers and men of Unit 525 of the Korean People's Army [KPA] sent a letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il pledging themselves to be loyal to him and he sent them his handwritings "Glory to the revolutionary armed forces faithful to our party." This is another proud example showing that our party and army form a great integrated whole.

It is thanks to the great integrated whole formed by the party and army that our party is powerful; our People's Army is mighty; and the chuche revolutionary cause victoriously advances.

1. The party and army are the people's fate and life itself.

The party of the working class is a guide fully responsible for the fate of the people and the revolutionary army is the defender of the party cause.

The struggle for exploring the fate of the people goes on amid a fierce struggle against all manner of enemies, including the imperialists and domestic reactionaries. The revolution is not only an ideological confrontation against the counterrevolution, but also a confrontation between one power and another.

Revolutionary forces are an absolute condition for making a revolution defeat the counterrevolution and for defending the party's cause against the imperialists' aggression and the subversive and undermining maneuvers of the reactionaries.

In the revolutionary struggle, the party and army are bound together by a single life. The revolution is a struggle for independence and independence is guaranteed by the sovereignty of the state.

The imperialists and the class enemies are reluctant to give away their control without resistance. Instead, they will desperately struggle to stay in power even by resorting to counterrevolutionary violence. As shown by experience, the party and people can hold government firmly in their hand only when they respond to the counterrevolutionary violence with revolutionary violence and defeat the counterrevolutionary armed forces with revolutionary armed forces.

When the party does not have its own revolutionary armed forces at its disposal, it cannot maintain the government nor guide the revolution.

The party and the army are an integrated whole. Without a revolutionary army, it is impossible to conceive of the might of the party of the working class that leads the revolution. Without the guidance of the party, it is impossible to think of the raison d'etre of the revolutionary army or about strengthening or developing the revolutionary army.

The army holding the gun in its hand is the most powerful among the driving forces behind the revolution. When the party forms an integrated whole with the army, they can lead the revolution and construction to victory with invincible might.

A revolutionary party identifies its own might with that of the army. The integrated whole of the party and army is the mighty strength that propels the revolution and construction. The integrated whole of the party and army can do anything and fears nothing.

When the party and army form an integrated whole, the unity of the entire people can become firmer and the people's fate can be brilliantly explored and made to advance on the strength of the united strength.

For this reason, a people carrying out a revolution can take the greatest pride in the firm unity between the party and army.

The party and army in our country have now formed a great integrated whole. Our party leads the revolution and construction, with firm trust placed in the People's Army, while the People's Army tirelessly advances struggling along the path indicated by the party, with its fate entrusted to the party.

Such a perfect whole formed by the party and army dates back to a long historical period of time and it originates in a glorious course of struggle.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, has noted: The People's Army is an army that has directly inherited the revolutionary traditions established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song during the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary.

The tradition of the blood ties between the party and army was created in the days of the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in the dawning period of our revolution was a historical event that marked the stately birth of a genuinely chuche-oriented revolutionary armed force.

The KPA was not merely armed ranks, but was an army of the leader and of the party that assumed it as its revolutionary mission to realize the leader's ideology and leadership.

United in these ranks were the chuche-type communist revolutionaries who had clear-cut position and resolve to uphold and honor only the great general.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary ranks were filled with a spirit to trust and follow the respected and beloved general until the last day of the world and to defend him with arms. The spirit was such a death-defying determination that the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters would lay down their lives rather than disgracing their trust and sense of obligation. It was also a clean revolutionary conscience that will stick to a fighter's sense of obligation even if one is be left alone in a remote and distant place on a steep mountain or island.

In this way, our revolutionary armed forces assumed loyalty to the party and leader as their life from the very beginning and have begun conducting their activity gloriously.

Our revolutionary armed forces that fired their first gunshot in the forest atop Mt Paektu have advanced a proud, victorious road and have defended and safeguarded the cause of the party through their heroic struggles.

Our revolutionary armed forces have firmly established the tradition of blood ties between the party and army from the beginning. This is the greatest glory for our revolutionary armed forces.

The party and army can form an integrated whole only in the middle of the revolutionary struggle. Only such unity as that existing between the party and army that has been cemented amid grave revolutionary storms, can become invincible and keep solidifying and developing itself without wavering in the face of any kind of wind.

Our party and army have run across some grave ordeals and storms in the course of advancing. However, such grave ordeals have brought solid unity between the party and army.

In the past, the imperialists and the class enemies, the counterrevolutionary armed forces, blocked the advance of our revolution every step of its way. In the course of such an arduous struggle, the party and leader led the revolution with firm trust placed in the Army, while our revolutionary armed forces displayed high the spirit of self-sacrifice and unmatched heroism in order to defend and safeguard the party and leader.

It was a road of bloody struggle like the march of hardship that our army is required to go through, and the road of a showdown that one must rush along at the risk of falling victim every step of the way.

Our army has honorably fulfilled its mission as the army of the leader, of the party, no matter what treacherous ordeals it may have come across, and has been ever-victorious.

Being ever-victorious is not free of cost. It can be achieved only in exchange for bloody struggles and great sacrifice.

It was thanks to the death-defying resolve to defend and safeguard the party and leader that our army has suffered not a single defeat in a head-long fight against the enemy which is superior in numbers and technology.

Not only was the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song the supreme commander of the revolutionary armed forces, but he was also the benefactor of noble political life and a great fatherly figure.

Realizing this from experience, the officers and men of our army remained faithful to the sense of obligation as the leader's revolutionary fighters under any adverse circumstances, cherishing rock-firm faith that it is an honor to be alive or dead on the revolutionary road led by the party and leader.

Both the immortal fighters who ensured the personal safety of the respected and beloved comrade commander becoming themselves flesh riddled with bullets and the true revolutionaries who shouted "Long live General Kim Il-song" with all their hearts after having their tongues cut on a scaffold were from our army.

Both the brave soldiers who fought the 50,000-strong enemy with just four guns on Wolmi islet and the heroic fighters who blocked, with their burning hearts, the muzzle of the enemy's gun with their own flesh on a burning height were also from the KPA.

History has seen no other army that struggles for the party and leader as heroically as our army, braving all manner of difficulties and throwing away its youthfulness and life. So, people extol our KPA as the heroic army loyal to the party.

Through a long and arduous struggle, the party and army have formed an integrated whole which no force on earth can break up. Under the leadership of the party and leader, our army has emerged victorious from two revolutionary wars and has performed heroic feats in the difficult postwar rehabilitation and socialist construction.

Because they were forged amid a bloody struggle, the ties between our party and army are the solid ties that are most true to their being bloody ties, that no force on earth can break up.

Our party and Army are an invincibly integrated whole as they have been united by one fate amid a sacred struggle for inheriting and consummating the revolutionary cause.

The party and Army should be an integrated whole not just during the pioneering period of the revolution, but also during the period of its inheritance and consummation.

The future and fate of the revolution depends on the perfect whole formed between the party and army. The revolution never stops advancing, becoming lengthy and complicated with the passage of time.

As long as imperialism and the imperialists' aggressive maneuvers continue to exist in the world, the revolutionary army should keep the revolutionary weapons provided by the party at its disposal. The revolutionary army can never afford to be careless in upholding the party, particularly at a time when the imperialists are adhering to the strategy of peaceful transition and viciously maneuvering.

An army which stays far from the party and an army that lacks an inherent loyalty to the party is bound to lose its vitality as a revolutionary army. Only when the army holding guns remains unwavering and firm in upholding the party, can it fulfill its mission as a revolutionary army and can the revolution keep making giant strides forward on the heels of the enemy.

The period during which the struggle for imbuing the entire army with the chuche idea began moving in earnest was full of meaningful days in the glorious history of the KPA that has advanced with the party.

The cause of imbuing the entire party with the chuche idea which is being conducted under the leadership of our party is a noble work capable of strengthening and developing our KPA as an army of the party as well as an invincible revolutionary armed force.

All the soldiers have come to cherish boundless loyalty to the party and leader in the course of carrying out a struggle for imbuing the entire army with the chuche idea and have grown to be tenacious, one-a-match-for-100 revolutionary fighters capable of struggling for the party and revolution, the fatherland and people, throwing away everything they value.

The course of the officers and men of the KPA struggling along the road of imbuing the entire army with the chuche idea is a course in which they realize the greatness of the leader of the revolution and cement their rock-firm faith to share the same fate with the leader until the end.

The leadership of our party which has been presenting chuche-type military ideology and strategic and tactical policies at every stage of the developing revolution was wise beyond comparison.

The bosom of our party which held the officers and men of the KPA and took care of them after giving them noble political lives has shown benevolence that has no limit. This is how the officers and men of our KPA have come to firmly realize that when they are under the leadership of the party and leader, then can they find a rewarding life, happiness, and victory, as well as glory.

This is how the slogan of loyalty, "Let us struggle for the great leader and the dear comrade leader at the risk of our lives," began reverberating throughout our KPA.

Although the Army issues a lot of orders for action that must be obeyed at the risk of soldiers' lives, this slogan is the most noble and sacred order for action that the officers and men of the KPA should cherish forever, as if it were their own lives. This shows that our party and the Army remain a great integrated whole, sharing the same fate, until such time as they have finally realized the revolutionary cause.

The course in which our party and army have traversed breaking through grave revolutionary storms after forming an integrated whole was a glorious course which only the Army of the leader and the party that upholds a great leader at its head can traverse.

Our KPA has always been boundlessly loyal to the party and leader, not only in a revolutionary war against the imperialists or in socialist construction. Our army has never wavered even an inch in upholding the party and leader and it resolutely struggled like an angry lion when it comes to the defense of the authority of the party and leader.

Even during the postwar period of hardship, our KPA resolutely crushed the maneuvers of the antiparty, counterrevolutionary, and factional elements who tried to alienate the army from our party, on the grounds that it was an army of the united front and then was able to raise high the slogan that called for defending the party Central Committee led by Comrade Kim Il-song at the risk of lives.

It was during a proud course of rewarding struggle in which the party and army advanced in an integrated whole that the driving force behind our revolution was strengthened in all directions and a powerful socialist country of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense came into being. It was also in that course in which the fundamental guarantee capable of brilliantly inheriting and consummating the chuche revolutionary cause, upholding a great leader, was provided.

Firmly standing in the van of a glorious struggle to solidify the foundation for the party, with the party and leader upheld at the head of the party and army, were the backbone of the KPA, including the fallen anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters.

We are firmly convinced that the revolutionary army can fulfill its mission as the army of the leader and of the party and bring the revolutionary cause to perfection only when the party and army form a great integrated whole.

It is a great pride for our party and people to have an integrated whole of the party and army which have been formed in the course of a protracted and arduous struggle, and which becomes more powerful and developed in proportion to the advancing revolution.

2. Our party and the KPA have formed a great integrated whole.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has noted: The issue that is most significant to our KPA is related to the leader [suryong] and the party's leadership.

Without the leader and the party's leadership, it is impossible to think about the KPA's revolutionary nature, about its proud history, or its glorious future.

The great integrated whole of our party and the KPA that has been cemented in the historical course of overcoming all manner of difficulties is becoming more powerful and developed in today's march toward the consummation of the chuche revolutionary cause.

The existence of a great integrated whole between the party and army means that the party and army are so firmly unified that no force on earth can break them up, with the leader of the revolution upheld as its highest intelligence.

The great integrated whole between our party and the army is a community of fate built on a single life. It is also an ideologically, resourcefully united body composed of trust, a sense of obligation, and throbbing hearts and a perpetual single-minded unity struggling for the future, braving any kind of storms.

The great integrated whole as such, formed between the party and army, is the most noble fruition beyond comparison.

Above all, our party and the KPA are a community of fate firmly held together by a single life. A party and army engaged in the revolution are tied together by a single fate.

It is the revolutionary army that the party always relies on in leading the revolution. The more arduous the struggle turns out to be, the more the party relies on the revolutionary army and the army on the party.

If and when the party and army form a community of fate, it has no powerful enemy that it cannot defeat.

In leading the revolution and construction and in presenting new strategic and tactical tasks, our party fully relies on the KPA, while the officers and men of the KPA are struggling with their fate completely entrusted to the party.

Our KPA's revolutionary spirit to share the same fate with the party at all times is a firm, unshakable one that cannot afford to waver or change under any circumstances.

It is the unshakable will of all KPA soldiers to remain boundlessly faithful and devoted to the party and the revolutionary cause whenever and wherever and become a fortress and shield for steadfastly defending the party and leader with arms.

This is a brilliant continuation of the spirit of perseverance maintained by the fallen anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who wanted to become the great general's life-long revolutionary fighters and to be buried somewhere in Mt Paektu where the general had quartered when they died .

Thanks to such ideological and spiritual traits, our army has produced a large number of well-known, unknown heroes, fighters who threw their own bodies over the exploding hand grenades just like hero Kim Kwang-chol did, and who struck a responsive chord in the hearts of all the people across the country with their heroic deeds.

Our army's heroism and the noble spirit of self-sacrifice, which is being given full play in an age seething with reactions and construction, not in wartime, is an example that the party's revolutionary fighters should emulate in our society.

The noble ideological and moral traits prevalent in our army clearly prove that it will always fight staunchly in whatever ordeals, shouting "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il!" as the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners defended respected General Kim Il-song at the cost of their lives at the dawn of the Korean revolution, shouting "Long live the great Comrade Hanbyol!"

An army needs good arms. However, what it needs most, perhaps more important than the arms, is an ideological resolve. Only when its ideology is fiery and its fighting spirit is firm, can it hold guns steadily under any circumstances and fight any powerful enemy without fear and then ultimately defeat it and become victorious.

This is a lesson taught by history. In essence, the revolutionary army defeats the enemy not with numerical and technical superiority, but with an ideological superiority. So, an ideological resolve on the part of the revolutionary army to defend the party and leader at the risk of one's life is like a life itself.

Today our KPA's ideological and spiritual state is very good. No other revolutionary army has so fully entrusted its fate to its party as our army and no army is so burning with a fiery single-minded resolve as our army to throw away even their youthfulness and life for its party and leader.

As long as the KPA stands firmly in its guard post, the authority of the party and leader will be firmly defended and safeguarded and the blood vessel of chuche be inherited from generation to generation.

Our party and the People's Army are also a pure ideological and volitional monolithic body united in one ideology and one heart. The party and army that are engaged in the revolution are in ideological and volitional unity rather than in working unity. Only the unity of the party and the army based on one ideology, the leader's ideology, can become a solid unity.

The military activities of the revolutionary army are the struggle to realize the party's military strategic ideology. When we conduct army building and army activities based on the party's ideology and intent, and when all the officers and men think and act according to the party's ideology, we can achieve a complete and harmonious unity with the party ideologically. The unity of the party and the Army based on temporary common interests and working relations is like a house of cards on sand which collapses faced with a stern trial, but the ideological and volitional unity of one ideology and one heart never falters. Ideological unity, comradeship, and fidelity-oriented unity are essential requisites to victory, as proven by the practice of our revolution.

Today our People's Army is an ideological and volitional monolithic body of true revolutionary fighters whose outlook on the world is that of the ideology of the party and the leader. Firmly dominant in this rank is our party's ideology, overflowing with the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters' spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality with which they struggled, saying "We do not even have the right to die unless we implement the orders and directives of the respected and beloved comrade commander."

Upholding the slogan "What the party decides, we will do," our People's Army accepted the party's idea and intent as its life-and-death demand and is waging a devoted struggle to implement them unconditionally. "What the party decides, we will do"—this slogan is a slogan of faith stating that, only on the road of implementing the party's orders and directives, can they add luster to the honor and valuable life of the revolutionary army; it is a slogan that throbs with the indomitable fighting will of going daringly through a burning river and marshy road and accepting the party's intent as a supreme order, if it is the way the party directs them to follow.

With their hearts filled with the sheer desire to devote everything they have to upholding the ideology and intent of the party and the leader, the officers and men of the People's Army are waging a vigorous struggle with the determination of loyalty to take up the task of the fatherland defense and of socialist construction. It was our army that created an epochal miracle in the construction of the Sohae lockgate, which blocked the 20-ri raw sea, and that is fully exerting heroic exploits in erecting great monumental creations such as the construction of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex and Tongil Street. Rushing ahead of others to the most difficult and hardest guardpost at the call of the party was our army, and dwelling in the proud creations that add luster to the era of the Worker's Party is the noble perspiration and heroic exploits of our army.

Our People's Army has never haggled over or faltered at the party's orders and directives. Because we have the People's Army, with combat capabilities with which it is ready to dash through water and fire at the order of the party and the leader, the defense of the fatherland is as firm as an iron wall, and socialist construction is making victorious advances under the leadership of the party. That we have thoroughly established the rigorous order and command system, as well as the firm discipline in which the entire army moves as one according to the orders and directives of the party and the leader, is the proud trait of our People's Army that has achieved perfect harmony with the party.

The party's intent, orders, and directives are thoroughly passed on in a timely, swift, and precise manner to the companies, platoons, and squadrons; the entire army breathes, walks, and acts with the party, and throbs with heart-beats in the same heart with the party. This iron-strong discipline and order which is established in our army is not the military discipline of blind obedience to orders. It is the revolutionary discipline based on the discipline and movement of volition and on the faith of high self-awareness which itself is based on the high loyalty of trusting and upholding only the party and the leader. That this iron-strong discipline and order have been established in the revolutionary army, the life of which is discipline, enables our People's Army to form one organic body with the party and to demonstrate its dignity as an army of ever-victorious combat capabilities. Thus, our People's Army has become the purest ideological and volitional monolithic body which leaves no room for any minor ideological element contradictory to the party's ideology to gain hold, and it is a strong and mighty revolutionary army which stands up like a mountain at the party's order.

There is no force in the world that can stand against the invincible might of our People's Army which has formed a single-hearted body of ideological will with the party. Our party and the People's Army are also one flesh which struggle to the end for the future, fighting together through any grave storm in the course of the revolution. The unity between the party and the army is boundlessly noble, not only for the past and today, but also for the future. The revolution is the struggle for the future. This struggle can achieve victory only when we fight through many difficulties and trials.

The party is the guide who pioneers the future, and together with it the army is one flesh which is to eternally traverse the single road. The firm guarantee for consummating the revolutionary cause and surmounting any formidable difficulties and trials lies precisely in the eternal single body of the party and the army.

Our people have been firmly prepared ideologically so that they can consummate the revolutionary cause under the leadership of the party and the leader. The unanimous faith of officers and men of the People's Army is that they share to the end their fate with the party under any formidable difficulties and trials. The revolutionary core elements of our army are the revolutionaries of the chuche type who have grown up amid the bosom of the party and the leader. All commanders of our army have firmly armed themselves with the chuche-oriented army-building ideology and theory, and are burning with the ardent desire to repay the great trust and concern of the party and the leader with loyalty.

Because of the existence of these revolutionary core elements, the unity of our party and army has become a solid one which is not shaken under any circumstances, and its future has been firmly quaranteed. The future of the revolutionary army rests with how we prepare soldiers of the new generation. A shift in generations is taking place in the People's Army today with the advance of the revolution, and newly grown up generations form the main force of the People's Army. The old anti-Japanese fighters who have fought since the early days of the founding of the revolutionary armed forces have already left us, and there is already frost on the heads of the heroic fighters of the Fatherland Liberation War. Generations have changed. However, the ideological will to uphold the party and the leader has never changed in our People's Army and today has become firmer.

Our young soldiers have been inheriting the revolutionary army, firmly standing on the outposts where our fallen revolutionaries once were. Because of this, the future of our army is infinitely promising. The future road of our People's Army may encounter arduous trials; however, our People's Army will fight, keeping their faith and sense of obligation to the end, according to the oath that they have made before their great leader.

Today, in our country, cohesion and unity between the party and the army have become all the more solid with the advance of the revolution. This is entirely because of the greatness of the leader who leads the revolutionary armed forces, and because of the absolute trust and boundless loyalty of all officers and men of the People's Army to the leader of the revolution. For this, our party and army will be consolidated and developed into a great integrtated body.

3. The Great United Body of our Party and the People's Army is the Most Mighty Strength Which Makes it Possible To Consummate the Korean Revolution to the End

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: In the future the People's Army will also perform its revolutionary duty of guaranteeing with arms the victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche by being invariably loyal to the leader.

The period when our revolutionary armed forces were born was indeed arduous. Their arms were poor and their ranks were not large. Our revolutionary armed forces, which the Japanese imperialists said were like small grains floating on the sea, cultivated strength and constantly expanded their ranks amid fierce battles against the enemy. Today, our revolutionary armed forces have grown up to become the revolutionary armed forces of a one-is-a-match-for-100 which have been tempered and tested technologically. The basic secret that our People's Army has constantly strengthened and developed, enjoying victories, lies in the invincible cohesion and unit of the party and the army. The invincible might of the revolutionary army lies in its political and ideological superiority. Peerless self-sacrificing spirit, mass heroism, and infinite loyalty are precisely the political and ideological superiority that only the revolutionary army, the army of the party, can possess.

A decisive factor that determines a victory or a defeat in war is not any weapon or technology, but the political and ideological status of the armed forces which perceive how just their cause is. The historical experiences from the revolutionary war show that the revolutionary armed forces which are endlessly loyal to the party and the leader, and which are united together with the party, can easily win in a fight against an enemy equipped with ultramodern weapons.

Great unity between the party and the army is the innate superiority of the revolutionary armed forces and a source for their invincible might. Further consolidating invincible unity and cohesion as in the past is a genuine road toward brilliantly cultivating our people's destiny and completing the Korean revolution to the end. Great unity between the party and the army is a firm guarantee that makes it possible to more harmoniously develop the traditional beautiful custom of unity between the army and the people in our country and to strengthen the main forces of the revolution and unity and cohesion among the party, the army, and the people.

The main forces of the revolution are a united body in which the party, the army, and the people are united into one with the leader as the supreme brain. Unity between the party and the army is of fundamental significance in strengthening and developing the main forces of the revolution. Only when the party and the army are united, can unity among all the people be strengthened and the main forces of the revolution become powerful. When the party, the army, and the people are united, then can they be victorious in a fight against any enemy and vigorous progress can be made in socialist construction.

Great unity has been achieved between the party and the army today in our country. As a result, the main forces of the revolution are being strengthened. Unity between the party and the army is a firm basis that thoroughly guarantees blood ties between the army and the people.

Our People's Army and our people each have different revolutionary tasks and serve in different posts. However, the hearts of both the army and the people are filled with a fervent eagerness to complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end in hearty response to the party and the leader. To the officers and men of our People's Army, all the people are their revolutionary comrades as well as blood brothers and sisters on the road of upholding the party and the leader; to the people, the People's Army is a genuine people's army that defends their lives and property.

Blood unity between the party and the army has more harmoniously developed the beautiful tradition of unity between the army and the people. The officers and men of our People's Army have thoroughly implemented the slogan that just like fish cannot live away from water, guerrillas cannot live away from the people, a slogan that the great leader presented during the days of the anti-Japanese struggle.

Our army unhesitatingly runs into water and fire if it is to defend the security of the fatherland and the people's lives and property, and it shares the same fate and joys and pleasures with the people anywhere anytime. Therefore, our people treasure and love the People's Army soldiers as their sons and daughters and do anything if it is to help the army.

Disabled veterans and discharged soldiers are particularly loved and respected in our society, and nothing is nobler and more honorable than sending one's sons and daughters to the People's Army. This clearly shows that the party, the army, and the people have forged blood ties that nothing can sever.

Because the traditional beautiful custom of unity between the army and the people is highly displayed; because the party, the army, and the people have forged blood ties, the main forces of our revolution are being strengthened; and because of their strength, endless progress is being made in the revolution and construction.

Great unity between the party and the army is a source of magnificent strength that defends and protects our style of socialism and that displays the superiority of our style of socialism in an overall manner. A struggle for socialism carries with it a fierce struggle against the imperialists and all class enemies, and this struggle goes on until an ultimate victory for the socialist cause is won.

The more victoriously the revolution and construction advance, the more desperately the imperialists resort to any means to obliterate the socialist cause. To solidly defend and protect socialism from maneuvers of aggression and hindrance by the imperialists, the party and the army must be united. When the party wisely leads the socialist cause, and when the army stoutly defends the party's cause using armed forces, then will the revolution and construction be ever-victorious.

Today, under the difficult circumstances in which we are faced with the imperialists and in which the country is divided, we are winning brilliant victories in socialist construction after overcoming layered difficulties. This constitutes a serious blow to the imperialists and reactionaries, and is a vigorous encouragement to the world's progressive people and friends.

At a time when the imperialists loudly babble about the crisis of socialism, socialism is continuously and victoriously advancing in our country without being shaken. This arouses admiration among the world's people, and they expressed their interest to know what the key to this is.

The key to the invincibility and victories of our style of socialism is, in a word, unity and cohesion among the party, the army, and the people. Upholding the slogan of serving the people, our party is devotedly struggling for the popular masses' happiness and interests. Also, considering the party's slogan—we will do what the party decides—as their firm belief, our People's Army and our people are upholding the party's leadership with loyalty.

Unity among the party, the army, and the people is a powerful engine that highly displays the superiority of our style of socialism in an overall manner. In our country, the struggle to produce great upsurges in the socialist construction of the nineties is waged on the united strength of the party, the army, and the people, and the work of defending the fatherland is being successfully carried out based upon the firm unity among the party, the army, and the people.

Apart from unity among the party, the army, and the people, it is unthinkable to crush the antirevolutionary, antisocialist offensives by the imperialists; to defend the socialist principles and revolutionary principles; and to confidently walk along the socialist road. Therefore, our style of socialism, which we built under the party's leadership by implementing the chuche idea, is brilliant as a society with the greatest vitality that is endlessly developing on the strong basis of self-dependence, self-support, and self-reliant defense.

The great party, which is deeply rooted among the People's Army and the popular masses, and the army and the people, which are upholding the party's leadership with loyalty, are the basis of the solidity of our style of socialism and a source that enables us to confidently walk along the road toward our development after overcoming any storms and trials.

As long as there is the revolutionary leadership of the party, which is marching upholding the revolutionary banner and the socialist banner, and as long as there are revolutionary armed forces that are defending and protecting the party, then will our style of socialism vigorously display its mighty tractive forces and invincible vitality.

Consummating the Korean revolution to the end through the great unity of the party, the army, and the people is precisely the firm and invariable will of our glorious party. Our revolution has not ended yet, and the road ahead for us is still perilous and complicated. For our communist revolutionaries of the chuche type who should carry out the revolution to the end, unity between the party and the army is very valuable. The party and the army are precisely the destiny of our people and are the life of the Korean revolution.

As long as there is unity of the party and the army, we are not afraid of any nuclear weapon and can defeat any strong enemies. The key to all of our victories lies in the cohesion and unity of the the party, the army, and the people.

We have an old saying about state affairs, the greatest state affairs are to defend the country and that if we fail to attach great importance to military affairs the country is destined to perish. The cause of the tragedy in which our country was trampled underfoot by the Japanese imperialist aggressors in the past is closely related to the fact that we did not deal with military affairs. The lesson of history shows that only by attaching great importance to military affairs can one firmly defend the dignity of one's country and nation. Furthermore, under the present situation in which the imperialists are trying to trample underfoot small and weak countries by force of arms, adhering to the position of force and wielding nuclear weapons, the party which is carrying out the revolution should attach great importance to military affairs and should strengthen the revolutionary armed forces by any means.

All the people should love and help the People's Army. All party members and the working people should not forget that they are carrying out socialist construction without anxiety and leading a happy life because soldiers are firmly defending the boundaries of the country even under difficult circumstances, but should treasure and love soldiers like their own children and sincerely help them.

Because of the reckless new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets an extremely dangerous situation, in which war may be ignited like a powderkeg at any time has been created in our country today. Officers and men of our People's Army are filled with a fighting spirit and with the self-confident determination to bravely fight and defeat the enemies for the honor of chuche Korea, heroic Korea, upholding the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's order, if they venture to spring at us.

The road of the revolution on which our party, the People's Army, and the people advance as one united body is precisely one road on which they advance, firmly rallied around the great leader [yondoja]. This road is the continuation of the road on which our anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters fought their way through the forests of Paektu, following the great general. It is also the sacred road where heroic fighters blocked the breakthroughs on burning hills with their hearts and defended them in blood during the Fatherland Liberation War. Only when our party and army advance along this road can they defend the banner of the revolution and brilliantly pioneer the destiny of the fatherland and the people.

Officers and men of the People's Army entirely entrust their destinies to the party and the leader and are filled with the burning determination to fight their way through arduous trials together with the party. Vowing to safeguard and defend the party and the leader with their lives under difficult circumstances and, thus, to perform their duties as the revolutionary fighters of the party is precisely the unanimous oath of faith that all officers and men of the People's Army have made before the great leader. Officers and men of our People's Army will fight, keeping this oath to the end, and will infinitely glorify the honor and dignity as the revolutionary armed forces of the party. Our revolutionary cause which the party, the army, and the people firmly unite around the great leader and advance, is ever-victorious and invincible.

Daily Views People's Allegiance to Socialism

SK2704030291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 11 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 11 April special article: "It Is Our Party's Great Pride That the Revolutionary People Allegiant to the Cause of Socialism Have Been Nurtured"]

[Text] Today, under the leadership of the party, our people are victoriously carrying the cause of socialism forward along the road of the chuche idea. In this course, our people are shining as a great revolutionary people boundlessly allegiant to the cause of our party—the cause of socialism.

Our people, once backward and powerless, have today become highly honored as a great revolutionary people with invincible might. This is thanks to the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, in the course of initiating and developing the cause of socialism, has set a shining example of nurturing the people into great revolutionary people with the rays of the chuche idea.

Today, as we consider the victorious advance of our type of socialism, we emotionally recall the respected and beloved leader's endlessly great achievement in nurturing the great people.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, who brilliantly shapes the future of socialism by nurturing the great people with outstanding ideas and theories, with extraordinary leadership, and with noble characters, is indeed the great leader of the people in the chuche era, and is the outstanding and tested leader of the revolution.

1. Nurturing the People Allegiant to Socialism Is a Fundamental Condition to its Victorious Advance and Consummation.

The people are the source of socialism's attraction. Socialism which is rooted deep in the people is invincible and develops ceaselessly.

In the first place, the communist movement is the movement of a force, and the force is the people led by the leader. The people united with the party around the leader are a powerful force, and, together with such a great people, socialism can move only forward in accordance with the inevitability of historical development. Nothing can block the wheels of socialism pushed by the great people.

Nurturing the great revolutionary people is precisely a basic way of displaying the superiority and vitality of socialism. In our country, the question of nurturing the people into the revolutionary people allegiant to the cause of socialism has been brilliantly solved by upholding the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as the great leader.

The course of the respected and beloved leader's 60-year or so glorious and magnificent revolutionary activities shines as the course of an emotional epic through which the great people allegiant to socialism and having invincible might have been nurtured.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: The greatness of a leader means precisely the establishment of a great party and the nurturing of a great people. Our people uphold and boundlessly admire the leader as the great father of the people. This is precisely because the leader has established the invincible Workers Party of Korea and has nurtured our people into the great heroic people of lofty independence and creativity by exerting all his efforts throughout his life.

The greatness of a people depends on the greatness of a leader. Comrade Kim Chong-il has elucidated that the greatness of a country and the greatness of a people are decided by the quality of their ideologies, by the condition of their political and ideological unity, and by the state of their independent and creative life. These elements which decide the greatness of a country and the greatness of a people come within reach only when a great leader is upheld. Only when a leader is great, outstanding, and wise can a party and a people be great and the cause of socialism be victorious. Only under the care of an outstanding leader can a people vigorously move forward along the single road of socialism. At the same time, only when the great leadership is inherited can the honor of a revolutionary people be defended. This has been unmistakably proven by our experiences.

By learning early the truth of the chuche idea that the masters of the revolution are the people and that the ordinary people can become endlessly powerful after being awakened and organized, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has devoted most of his effort and energy to nurturing the people. Precisely because of the great leader's leadership, our people have become a great people, our party and our fatherland have become a great party and a great fatherland, and our socialism has become invincible.

To nurture the people into a people allegiant to socialism, the great leader, first of all, by being independent in the ideological work, has made the people possess the lofty spirit of independence so that they can build socialism by their effort in accordance with their belief.

The great people allegiant to socialism, from an ideological and spiritual point of view, are those of a firm independent spirit who trust their party and the leader and build socialism by their own effort by following the party.

Every act of man is a result of his idea and concept. Accordingly, the people's allegiance to socialism and the greatness of the people, too, largely depend on the level of their idea and concept of independence.

If people look at others without the spirit of independence in ideology or if they only seek help from others, they cannot be allegiant to socialism and cannot be powerful. Therefore, the spirit of independence in the ideological work is indeed an essential requirement for nurturing a people into a great one.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has continued to arm the people with the principle of the chuche idea, the perfect idea of independence, from an early date and placed great emphasis on the ideological work and made the chuche idea indoctrination to have been ceaselessly intensified.

The great leader, particularly by establishing the spirit of independence in the ideological work, has made our people do away with the ideas of flunkeyism and dogmatism and the idea of relying on foreign forces and made them think with their own brain and shape their destiny by their own effort. This is of decisive significance in establishing a most fundamental spirit for the revolutionary people.

Precisely thanks to this wise leadership, our people have been able to persistently advance along the single road of socialism indicated by the party and the leader with a firm trust in the party and the leader and have become not those of flabby ones who look at others in difficulties but the invincible ones who overcome all the trials by their unyielding struggle.

Today, among the progressive peoples of the world, the voices are ringing out that the socialism of Korea is secure, because the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song has established the spirit of independence in the ideological work from an early date and has nurtured the people correctly.

This reality strongly proves the wisdom of the leadership of the great leader who has nurtured our people excellently by putting forth the most adequate and unique policy of ideological indoctrination and by continuing to intensify the ideological work.

The great leader has armed the people with the chuche idea and nurtured them into the revolutionary people unyielding to any antirevolutionary ideological offensive. As a result, our socialism has become impregnable under all circumstances. It continues to victoriously move forward along the road of the chuche idea.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has also organizationally and ideologically disciplined the people in the struggle of practice in order to nurture them into the revolutionary people allegiant to socialism and make them possess the firm revolutionary spirit and vitality.

Socialism is the hard cause which accompanies the arduous struggle needed to remake the nature and society and to repel the imperialists' destructive maneuvers. Difficulties and trials can never be avoided in the course of its advance. Under these circumstances, the people must be made to possess a high revolutionary spirit and vitality to become a revolutionary people who can win the victory of socialism. To this end, they must be organizationally and ideologically disciplined.

Only through the noble political and organizational life and through the rewarding struggle of practice waged for creation and construction, can high revolutionary spirit be established and developed, and combat capabilities be built and further reinforced.

Political life and intensive practice are the areas where the people can realize the correctness of the cause of socialism and of their party policy, and where they can be nurtured into the revolutionary people who would devote themselves to achieve the cause of socialism and to implement the party policy.

The great leader has continued to carry out the aggressive operations to occupy even higher peaks of socialism and encourage our people to continue the heroic struggle.

As a result, the course of our country's socialist construction has become the proud course through which our people have established the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and the spirit of wading muddy roads and crossing the burning rivers, and have strengthened the spirit of revolutionary and heroic life and struggle. In this course, numerous heroes, unsung heroes, and creators have been nurtured and they have pushed the cause of socialism forward with indomitable vitality. As a result, today, the era of heroism has come displaying the mass heroism.

In the course of the days of the magnificent struggle replete with creation and construction, the great leader continued the on-the-spot guidance of thousands, or tens of thousands, of li; stayed with the working class, farmers, intellectuals, and those of all circles; led them by the hand along the road of socialism; and nurtured them into the excellent revolutionary warriors of the party.

Our people emotionally recollect in what a revolutionary manner the great leader has nurtured our working class by touring the plants and enterprises such as the ones in Kangson, Nagwon, and Yongsong, including the Hwanghae iron and steel complex, from the time of doing the first-stage work of founding the country to the present.

The footsteps of the respected beloved leader are brilliantly engraved in the socialist rural areas where he has nurtured our farmers into hero farmers and led them along the road of collectivism, and are affectionately inscribed also where he has brought the intellectuals to the level of the party's permanent partners and the ardent advocators and executors of party policy.

All functionaries and working people assigned to every guardpost of the socialist construction today are those who used to be abandoned workers, peasants, working people, and their children. But today they have all become the revolutionary warriors of the party nurtured in the bosom of the great leader through the free education and enormous benefits given by the state.

In nurturing our people in a revolutionary way, the great leader, in particular, has ensured that everyone is accommodated in political organizations and prepared as excellent socialist construction workers and as the staunch advocators and executors of party policy.

Experience shows that the political and organizational life—the melting pot for revolutionary self-control and discipline—is indeed the best way for the people to learn the truth of the revolution, to accumulate knowledge, and to grow as revolutionary people boundlessly allegiant to the cause of socialism.

To nurture our people into the revolutionary people allegiant to socialism, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has also correctly conducted the work with the people of all circles and firmly rallied them around the party with a single ideology and will.

Strong unity with all the people is a basic requirement for nurturing the people into a great one, and in winning the victory of the socialist cause. Unity is power, and the great revolutionary people are precisely those who can achieve the firmest unity.

As elucidated by Comrade Kim Chong-il, what makes the people great is neither a large territory nor a large population but strong unity.

Socialism is a collective cause which is achieved through the blood relations and comradely cooperation among all classes and circles, including not only the working class but also farmers and working intellectuals. Accordingly, not disunity but unity must be strengthened, and all people must be firmly united under the banner of socialism. Only then can the people form a powerful force which can vigorously push socialism forward.

The respected and beloved leader has ensured that the work with the people of all circles is intensified. As a result, in our country the strong unity of the people of all circles has been achieved on the single road of socialism and the great people have been born.

To achieve the strong unity of the people, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has ensured that the mass line is implemented under the leadership of the party, that the work with the people is regarded as an essence of the party work, and that the work is intensified.

With the great leader having linked the leadership of the party and the mass line with one another, the interests of the people of all circles have been completely protected and guaranteed. The party and the masses have been inseparably linked with one another by a single blood lineage which nothing can sever. As a result, not only the working class and farmers but also the people of all other circles—working intellectuals, youths, students, and soldiers—have firmly united under the banner of the party—the banner of socialism—and are now persistently moving forward along the single road of socialism.

Our people have become a powerful people who are allegiant to socialism and who have firmly united under the banner of socialism. The basic secret of this is the great bosom of the great leader, who is the nucleus of unity.

As is earnestly indicated in the song "Away From His Bosom, We Cannot Survive!"—the song which our people always sing with emotion—our people have the sense of trust and the sense of destiny deep in their heart that, away from the bosoms of the great leader and our party, they cannot live even for a moment.

The bosom of the respected and beloved leader, who has an outstanding ideology, a limitless embracing capacity, and warm humanitarianism, is the great bosom in which even those who used to be anticommunists have been embraced and have become united under the banner of socialism.

With this bosom being boundlessly spacious and great, our type of socialism has become a fortress of unity, uniting the party, army, and people as one.

Indeed, the respected and beloved leader's great bosom and trust and his affectionate politics are the fundamental elements that have nurtured our people into the sacred people permanently allegiant to socialism and into the invincible people of unity, and has enhanced the vitality of our socialism.

Indeed, no word is enough to praise the wisdom of the respected and beloved leader's leadership and the greatness of the achievements won through his leadership which have nurtured our people into revolutionary people boundlessly allegiant to the socialist and communist cause.

The immortal achievements of the respected and beloved leader who has opened the bright future of socialism through nurturing the people will shine even more magnificently as our socialism advances victoriously.

2. Today, Our People Educated and Nurtured By the Party and Leader Are Displaying the Aspect of the Glorious People Who Vigorously Move Forward Under the Banner of Socialism.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, has noted: By coming to be placed under the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the great leader whom they received for the first time in the history of thousands of years—our people have become able to end the long history of trials and open the new era of the revolution. Our people have become the people of independence who shape destiny with their own effort and the glorious people who defeated the two powerful enemies of imperialism and have created a model of socialism.

A long period of time has passed since our people brilliantly began to blaze the victorious trail of socialism under the leadership of the great leader. This course has been a proud path along which our people have been nurtured into the revolutionary people allegiant to socialism in the bosom of the great leader and have highly displayed their prestige and honor.

It was absolutely because of the wise leadership of the party and leader that our people could defeat the two imperialist enemies and could build a socialist industrial power after the ravages of the war and come to be praised as great people.

Even today, in the vortex of the stern history, too, our people are continuing to build the successful tower of socialism without any deviation, thus displaying the honor of the revolutionary people.

By being excellently nurtured by the respected and beloved leader, our people have come to display the proud aspect of glorious people who are allegiant to socialism and who have created the model of socialism.

As highly evaluated by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song at all times, our people are indeed a good people, a revolutionary people, and a heroic people.

The aspect of our people who persistently carry the socialist cause forward is an endless glory and pride.

The glorious aspect of our people allegiant to socialism, first of all, is the resolute protection and defense of the socialist principle and stand. The firm stand toward the socialist principle is an important yardstick in gauging the allegiance to the socialist cause.

The socialist cause, because of its revolutionary principle, is distinguished from other types of socialist campaigns. It shapes its future only based on the correctness of its principle and based on its vitality.

As is shown by historical experiences, adherence to the truth and principle makes it possible for the socialist cause to overcome all difficulties and trials and to continue to advance. But if principle is abandoned, alteration and abandonment would be unavoidable midway.

The success of socialism depends on whether the socialist principle is defended or not. Thus, this is precisely the area where the people's allegiance to socialism can be displayed.

Being allegiant to the socialist cause is our people's firm stand. Adhering to the revolutionary principle in the socialist construction means that the basic demands and interests of the working class and of the working people are defended and embodied to the end. No matter how far the revolution advances, there can be no change in this principle of socialism. This is why our people, regardless of changes in the circumstances of the revolution, firmly maintain the basic demand for and stand toward independence.

Thoroughly defending the socialist principle and method as well as the stand of the working class is our people's firm will which will never change under any condition. Such a firm will of our people is clearly displayed in their loyal support for the leadership of the party. The loyalty to the leadership of the party is the fundamental indication of the allegiance to socialism.

The leadership of the party is the lifeline of socialism. Only under the leadership of the party can socialism be victorious and can independence—the life of the country, the nation, and the people—be guaranteed. Knowing this as a belief, our people share joys and sorrows with the party by depending on the party for their destiny and their future under all circumstances, and thus continue to defend the party.

Away from our party and our type of socialism, our people cannot think of their destiny even for a moment. In building socialism, they do it only along the road indicated by our party. They are completely intransigent when it concerns the principled question of the party's leadership. This shows precisely our people's ideological firmness toward our party and our type of socialism. With this loyalty to the leadership of the party, our people absolutely support and protect the party's line and policy by regarding both as a life-and-death matter linked with their lives. It is our people's firm belief that the future of our type of socialism lies precisely in following the party's line and policy, and this guarantees the people's rewarding life and their happiness.

Thanks to the existence of our people who maintain the firm and principled stand toward the party's leadership and policy, our socialism will continue to maintain its chuche-oriented character and to move forward.

The noble aspect of our people as the revolutionary people upholding the socialist cause is also displayed in their complete dedication to implementing the party's plan for socialist construction. People's dedication to socialist construction and the reality they create are important symbols of the honor enjoyed by the revolutionary people allegiant to socialism.

The lofty socialist idea requires the people's unyielding struggle for its realization. If the people are not creative and positive, then the socialist idea, no matter how lofty it may be, cannot be put into practice and the people cannot become a great people. Only the people who love to work and struggle, and who uphold the party's plan by performing heroic exploits, can become the powerful people allegiant to socialism.

Through the ceaseless heroic struggle for the implementation of our party's plan for socialist construction, our people have created a great reality of socialism. The spirit of heroism, and the great reality which our people have displayed and created in the course of the battle joined to Chollima have amazed the people of the world.

The era of the Workers Party, which shines along with the name of the respected and beloved leader, is replete with the dynamic events and exploits which prove the people's dedication and heroism.

With the same indomitable spirit displayed in the construction of the Sohae lockgate, our people are continuing the create great reality. The heartwarming epics which are being created today in the pits of the Komdok; at the construction site of Tongil Street; in the course of the mechanization, revolutionization, and intellectualization of the rural areas under the banner of the rural theses clearly show the revolutionary aspect of our people who are loyally upholding our party's plan for the socialist construction.

The dedication of our people in upholding our party's plan for socialist construction is intensively displayed, particularly in upholding the slogan "What the Party Decides, We Will Do." This slogan is a shining symbol of the loyalty of our people who even go through fire and water to put into reality what is planned by the great leader and sought by our party.

For its lofty spirit of upholding the party and absolutely supporting the socialist cause, the slogan is coming to be widely known even among foreign friends, and the voices of praise and amazement saying the slogan is a good one are ringing out highly.

Through our people's dedicated struggle, a full blossom and development have taken place in all areas of politics, economy, and culture in our country. The achievements which our people have won in the area of economic construction alone are already amazing when they are compared with what the capitalist countries have achieved through the exploitation and plunder of other countries and peoples over the period of several hundred years.

With the amazing successes won in all areas, our people are fully displaying the honor and prestige of the great revolutionary people who successfully build the success tower of socialism.

The noble aspect of our people as the revolutionary people allegiant to socialism is also displayed in resolutely repelling the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers and defending the banner of socialism.

Allegiance to socialism means burning hatred against imperialism and the firm revolutionary spirit of anti-imperialism. Without repelling the imperialists' ceaseless antisocialist maneuvers, defending socialism and winning its victory are unthinkable. Our people are those who have come to possess the resolute anti-imperialist spirit through the bitter experience of the aggressiveness and viciousness of imperialism in history, and those who have been disciplined through the severe struggle against imperialism.

Today, the imperialists are becoming even more feverish in embellishing capitalism in order to realize their so-called strategy of peaceful transition. However, our people clearly see in reality what capitalism brings to the people. They despise the things which the bourgeois have gained through exploitation and plunder.

Among our people, there is no one who would be taken in by the superficially opulent phenomena of the capitalist society or deceived by the imperialists' sugar-coating about so-called democracy or assistance. And there is no one who would be shattered by the gales which bring the bourgeois society.

Each one of our people knows that the purse which the imperialists showily wave and the wind of liberalization are a snare to submission, and that the road to capitalism is the one to the hell of unemployment, poverty, and all kinds of social evils.

This is precisely why our people raise the banner of the anti-imperialism struggle even higher and their attachment to the gains of socialism and desire to move toward socialism to the end grow even stronger, as the imperialists intensify the antisocialist maneuvers.

The will to counter any cold wind with the warm wind of socialism of our own type is prevailing, and the voices of faith to advance along the road of socialism with the party and the leader are ringing out. This is the revolutionary aspect of our people and our chuche Korea today.

The revolutionary people, who would resolutely defend socialism with invariable faith and unbending will, regardless of the passage of time and the change of the situation, are indeed the great pride of our party and the chuche Korea.

The history of our country's socialism shows the noble truth of the revolution. The most precious is that the people can be great and the banner of socialism can flutter high, only when the great leader is upheld and supported.

Our people who have come to know this truth as a belief are now filled with the revolutionary will to consummate the socialist cause to the end by following our party center and by upholding the ideology and leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

It is our party center's lofty intent to uphold the great leader even more enthusiastically and to glorify Korea endlessly, regardless of the passage of time and the change of the situation. The nobleness of this will further boost the enthusiasm and faith of loyalty toward the party and the leader among our functionaries and working people.

Our functionaries and working people, by engraving the lofty intent of our party deep in their hearts and by going along the path indicated by the great leader, must further glorify the socialism of our own type and consummate it to the end. This is precisely the true path to further enhancing the prestige and honor of the great revolutionary people, accelerating the reunification of the fatherland, and achieving the permanent prosperity for the coming generations.

Upholding the cause of the party and the leader with invariable faith is the conscience and duty of our people who have learned the truth of the revolution and have come to enjoy the most valuable rewards and honor of life under the care of the party and the leader.

We will continue to defend and glorify to the end the prestige of the Korean communists and people who would defend the revolutionary conscience and duty like their lives anywhere and anytime and who would value the revolutionary faith and obligation more than their lives.

Nothing in the world can block the future of our socialism which has the wise leadership of the party and leader, and has the great loyal people, who breathe through the generous heart of the party and share joys and sorrows with the party.

As long as the leader, the party, and the masses continue to struggle by invincibly becoming one in body and in spirit, victory and the future will always be on the side of our socialism.

Railway Transportation Said Making Progress

SK2604153691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1510 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—Railway transport has made rapid progress in the Democatic People's Republic of Korea.

The Government of the DPRK defined the railway as arteries of the country and pilot of the national economy and has made huge investments in the development of railway transport.

Many new railway lines have been built and the electrification of railways creditably carried out in the country. A total length of railway lines of the country is 3,360 kilometres longer than that in 1946 and a loop railway network has been formed.

Railways of the 1,440 kilometre section were switched over to electric traction in last ten years.

More than 90 percent of railway freight is carried by electric locomotives and the unified system of transport by electric locomotives has come near completion.

Modernization of railways and introduction of heavy rails have been stepped up.

Control of Pyongyang-Sinsongchon line (100 kilometres) with heavy traffic has been automated and compound automation of many railway stations completed.

Material and technical equipment has been steadily strengthened.

100 ton waggons, 8-axle electric locomotives, passenger cars and other waggons and electric locomotives are produced at home.

Railway transport workers have fully met the increasing demands for transport of the national economy through the "Drive for extra-haulage on schedule without accident to implement the decision of the 18th plenary meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea".

Locomotive drivers carried 250 million more tons of frieght than draft in the last ten years.

The construction and electrificaton of railways between Onchon and Namdong in South Pyongan Province and between Tonae and Yugok in Yangang Province and Haeju-Ongjin and Singangnyong-Pupo broad-gauges railway projects in Hwanghae Province are now being pushed ahead.

KCNA Review of 30 Apr Pyongyang Press

SK3004055191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0507 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Dailies here today carry the full text of the speech "For a Free and Peaceful New World" made by the great leader President Kim Il-song at the opening session of the 85th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union together with a photograph of him making the speech.

Participants of the conference said the speech of President Kim Il-song is a highly important guideline brightly indicating the road to be followed by mankind at present and TASS reported the speech, according to the press.

Dailies give accounts of the opening of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference, a banquet arranged by President Kim Il-song in honour of the participants of the conference, a plenary session of the conference and the 148th meeting of the Interparliamentary Council.

Dailies inform the readers that the Korea women's team took the team title at the 41st World Table Tennis Championships.

Sojourn of the DPRK Government delegation led by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok in Vietnam is reported in the press. NODONG SINMUN reports that the secretary general of the National Executive Committee of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance of Peru met the DPRK ambassador to his country.

Papers convey articles and words of university presidents, college rectors and students in the northern half of the country denouncing the fascist outrages of the South Korean authorities in brutally murdering Kang Kyong-tae, a student of Myongji University in Seoul.

It is reported in the paper that an all-people rally was held in Seoul with the participation of 50,000 students and citizens and rallies at about 30 universities in local cities to denounce the murder of Kang Kyong-tae.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article titled "Conversion of Korean peninsula Nuclear-Free, Peace Zone Is Urgent Task."

Papers report that Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, stressed the need to deepen studies of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, Nelson Mandela, vice-chairman of the African National Congress of South Africa, called for continued sanctions against South Africa, the Angolan president denounced the terrorism of the UNITA clique and the Central Council of the Palestine Liberation Organisation rejected the U.S. proposal for the convocation of a "regional conference."

NODONG SINMUN introduces successful socialist construction in Cuba and achievements in the building of a new society in Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, India and Malaysia.

The paper gives an account of a meeting held in Pyongyang to mark the 30th anniversary of the independence of Sierra Leone.

In a monthly review of the international situation, papers say the imperialists' moves to trample down the desire of mankind for independence and peace and realise their dominationist designs have become more pronounced.

South Korea

North's Proposed Soccer Tryout Change Rejected

SK3004075091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (YONHAP)—North Korea, citing massive protests in South Korea, said Tuesday it would not send members of its youth soccer team to Seoul for a tryout this weekend.

The Northern and Southern squads were scheduled to play for selectors picking a joint team for the world youth championship in Portugal in June.

Choe Yong-hae, chief of the North Korean soccer association, said in a telephone message that the trip had been cancelled because the atmosphere in Seoul was uneasy following the killing of a student demonstrator by riot police on Friday.

Choe proposed in the message to his Southern counterpart, Kim U- chung, that they revise the schedule for the tryouts and hold the first game in Pyongyang on May 8 and the second one in Seoul after the student's funeral.

Some 70 North Korean officials, players and reporters were due here Thursday for the first evaluation game Saturday.

The South Korean Government rejected the cancellation and said it saw no reason to change the schedule.

Vice Sports and Youth Minister Kim Yong-kyun said the South had completed all the preparations for Saturday's game and the situation did not require that it be postponed.

Kim said the government would notify North Korea of its position and the tryouts should not be affected by such trifles as student demonstrations.

Another government official said North Korea's decision not to send its players to Seoul violated the agreement reached between the two sides in the inter-Korean sports talks.

Although Pyongyang gave the situation in Seoul as the reason, it probably never intended to send its players to Seoul, he said.

South and North Korea agreed in February to field a joint team to the soccer championship in Portugal. It would be the second joint entry in an international sports event since national division in 1945. A joint Korean team is competing in the world table tennis championships in Japan.

Original Schedule Retention Urged

SK3004130891 Seoul YONHAP in English 1256 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (YONHAP)—Kim U-chung, president of the South Korean Soccer Association, on

Tuesday rejected North Korea's proposal that changes be made to the timetable for tryout matches aimed at forming a single Korean youth soccer team to the World Youth Soccer Championships slated to be held in Portugal in June.

Kim said, in a telephone message sent to his North Korean counterpart Choe Yong-hae, "We are now fully prepared to receive your team and, in view of our situation, there is no reason to postpone the tryouts." He further said, "It is absolutely impossible to change the schedule with the first match only a few days away.

"It is hardly acceptable for our accord to be called off for reasons that are irrelevant to sports," said Kim.

Meanwhile, Choe, head of the North Korean Soccer Association, proposed in his telephone message earlier in the day that North Korea would not send its soccer team to Seoul in light of the campus unrest triggered by the recent death of a student demonstrator.

Choe proposed that the two sides revise the schedule for the tryouts and hold the first game in Pyongyang on May 8 and the second one in Seoul after the student's funeral.

South and North Korean sports officials have recently agreed that the two sides hold the first tryout match in Seoul on May 4 and the second in Pyongyang on May 8.

Daily Views Participation in IPU Meeting

SK3004021191 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Apr 91 p 6

[Editorial: "IPU Conference in Pyongyang"]

[Text] Fruitful results are expected of the 85th general meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) which opened yesterday in Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea for a six-day run with a South Korean delegation attending, the first allowed to visit there as an official lawmakers' group since Korean division at the end of World War II.

The 25-member South Korean delegation including 12 parliamentarians arrived in Pyongyang after crossing the Demilitarized Zone via the truce village of Panmunjom as earlier agreed upon with the North Korean side. However, there were no welcoming crowds, neither along the road from Panmunjom to Kaesong where the South delegation boarded a Pyongyang-bound train, nor in Pyongyang itself. This was attributed by North Korean officials to what they termed "provocative" remarks recently made by South Korean Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku on the possibility of a commando attack on North Korean facilities producing nuclear weapons.

Pyongyang, because of the minister's remarks, had even indicated it was canceling its invitation of the Seoul delegation to the IPU meeting. Adding to our misgivings about the situation were a series of recent international developments affecting the Korean peninsula including the U.S.-led coalition forces' overwhelming victory in the Gulf War with Iraq and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to South Korean soil for summit talks with President No Tae-u on Cheju Island 10 days ago. These events may have made North Korean feel further isolated internationally.

But the adopted agenda now to be discussed during the IPU session in Pyongyang, notably includes the need for the nonproliferation of nuclear arms and other massive destructive weapons in an effort to strengthen confidence building among all nations in the process of joint security steps through arms reductions.

The agenda for the IPU meeting is most timely and opportune in connection with fears of the use of Iraqi biochemical weapons during the Gulf conflict and the North Korean project to develop nuclear arms, and its adamant refusal of international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

It is especially desirable that the IPU session this time back calls urging Pyongyang to accept international inspection of its nuclear facilities by signing the multinational nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) just as all peace-loving countries have done.

We do not want North Korea to be isolated from the international community but really hope that it will also open its doors internationally, following the global trend toward openness and democratic reform. To this end, South Korea extended a helping hand to Pyongyang to host the just-opened IPU meeting.

Both South and North Korea should not continue to engage in unproductive verbal battles at IPU and other international forums. They must refrain from uttering provocative remarks to irritate each other. Rather, they should pool efforts to build an amicable atmosphere and take joint steps to develop mutual confidence in the effort to improve inter-Korean relations until the eventual reunification of the divided country.

We should take note of somewhat conciliatory gestures from Pyongyang despite its still tough attitude in military and political terms. This flexible posture has been seen in its giving of the green light to direct barter trade with the South, and partial private-level contacts and sports exchanges with South Koreans.

These days all Koreans on both sides are happy cheering the first unified all-Korea table tennis team now participating in the 41st World Table Tennis Championships in Chiba, Japan.

With the IPU session in Pyongyang as a turning point, it is hoped South and North Korea resume their high-level talks between lawmakers without delay, promoting inter-Korean exchanges of parliamentarians. As further steps, the two sides are urged in earnest to resume all other existing channels of dialogue, including the premiers' and Red Cross talks, so as to improve relations.

UN Officials Hold Talks With Yi Sang-ok

SK3004020791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0134 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] New York, April 29 (YONHAP)—U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has hinted at support for South Korea's bid to join the United Nations alone if North Korea refuses to join simultaneously but separately.

Meeting South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, the top U.N. official said Monday the principle of universality of membership was made more significant than ever by the emerging international order.

De Cuellar said he hoped South and North Korea would be admitted to the United Nations as soon as possible and that he particularly wished South Korea to join the world body soon and play a proper role in the international community, a South Korean official accompanying Yi said.

Emerging from their talks, Yi told reporters the secretary-general had expressed "considerable understanding" of Korea's position on U.N. entry.

Yi said he had explained to De Cuellar that the joint admission of South and North Korea would not hamper unification but facilitate it, as in the cases of Germany and Yemen.

He said he hoped China, a permanent member of the Security Council, would take a "realistic" approach toward South Korea's application for U.N. membership.

Earlier in the day, Yi met with U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Thomas Pickering and discussed details of Seoul's bid for U.N. membership.

Yi told Pickering that Seoul would try to earn a positive recommendation from the Security Council before the 46th General Assembly opened Sept. 17 so its membership application could be dealt with on the first day of assembly operation. Pickering promised full support for such efforts, the Korean Foreign Ministry official said.

During a call on U.N. General Assembly President Guido de Marco, Yi asked for the Assembly's support for his government's efforts to earn U.N. membership.

De Marco said South Korea's admission to the United Nations should not be further delayed and pledged to enhance support for it.

Yi also met with ambassadors from France, Britain, Canada and Japan and discussed how to cope with the Security Council review of Korea's membership application.

To start the process of acquiring U.N. membership, an application must first earn the approval of nine of the 15 members of the Security Council. In addition, an objection from any of the five permanent members scuttles the process. The applying nation is awarded U.N. membership if it gets a two-thirds vote of approval in the General Assembly, which now has 159 members.

Sending Rice to North May Cause U.S. Friction

SK3004121191 Seoul YONHAP in English 1000 GMT 30 Apr 91

[By Ko Sung-il]

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (YONHAP)—The planned shipment of 5,000 tons of South Korean rice to North Korea may become another source of trade friction between Seoul and Washington as U.S. farmers are complaining it will cause confusion in the international rice market.

American cereal growers reportedly took offense when a South Korean company announced April 11 it would swap rice for North Korean coal. They said it would cut their share of sales in third countries even though it was a swap with the North.

U.S. farmers have pressured the U.S. State and Agriculture Departments to ask the Korean Government to drop the rice plan, a South Korean Government official says on condition of anonymity.

The Agriculture Department, ostensibly prodded by the farmers' requests, has protested the barter trade through unofficial channels, according to the official.

If the U.S. administration gives way to the requests, it may cause trade friction and trigger anti-American sentiment in Korea.

"Supplying rice to North Korea is so delicate an issue that I cannot elaborate officially, but as far as I know there is some degree of mutual undertanding between South Korea and America," another official says.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization requires any nation that wants to export surplus rice, usually more than 1,000 tons, to get the consent of major rice exporters.

South Korea is optimistic over shipping the first 5,000 tons because it has a concession from the U.S. State Department, says the official. He, however, does not rule out failure of the plan if the U.S. farmers continue their pressure.

Given mounting calls for the opening of the Korean rice market in the Uruguay Round talks, South Korea is likely to face harsh criticism that it exports rice but seals its market from foreign rice brokers.

It has made the Korean Government choose the State Department instead of the Agriculture Department to settle the rice plan politically, not economically.

The Korean Government regards the barter plan not as a trade between countries but as a domestic deal. The constitutional territory of South Korea covers the whole peninsula.

To avert a blitzkrieg, South Korea tries to draw a parallel between former East and West Germanys, which was considered an exception to the international trade order.

The South Korean Government seems determined to take on the rice controvery from a perspective of national reunification despite mounting pressure from the United States.

Soviet Military Officers To Work at Embassy

SK3004015391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Three Soviet military officers will work as attaches of their embassy in Seoul soon in a move which is expected to boost military ties between South Korea and the Soviet Union, government sources said yesterday.

The same number of military attaches will be assigned to the South Korean Embassy in Moscow early next month, according to the sources. There will be one representative each of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.

It is rare for the Seoul government to dispatch as many as three military attaches to a country.

Since the set up of diplomatic relations between Seoul and Moscow in September last year, the two have not promoted military cooperation.

"The decision to trade three military attaches is sure to strengthen bilateral ties in the military field," one source said.

The Soviet government was reported to have urged Seoul to buy Soviet arms, including MiG fighters. Moscow has been a major arms supplier to Communist North Korea.

To date Seoul has purchased most military goods from the United States.

The exchange of military officers was proposed by the Korean side, Oleg Sokolov, Soviet ambassador to Seoul, told a news conference at the Hotel Shilla yesterday.

The event preceded a reception to celebrate the issuance of gold and silver medallions commemorating the establishment in September, 1990, of diplomatic relations between Seoul and Moscow.

The envoy simply said the proposal is "under study" by the two governments.

He, however, rejected any military implications of the recent proposal by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to conclude an amity treaty between Seoul and Moscow.

"The Soviet Union is not imposing any kind of military cooperation on the Republic of Korea," he said.

Gorbachev made the proposal during a summit with President No Tae-u on Cheju Island in the hope that, through it, the two countries could raise the level of mutual understanding and the legal base for potential future cooperation, he said.

What Gorbachev proposed was not a friendship treaty but a treaty of "good neighborhood and cooperation," he said. Sokolov was present at the No-Gorbachev summit on Cheju Island.

He said the two presidents, at that time, made their foreign ministers examine the possibilities and contents of the potential treaty.

"Any treaty or any international agreement is necessarily a product of consensus between two sides, so I don't believe the Korean side has anything to worry about," he said.

Joint Exploration Projects in USSR Unveiled

SK3004012391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Apr 91 p 6

[Text] It will not be long, hopefully, before Korea participates in a range of joint exploration projects to put Soviet natural resources to use.

Prospects are very bright, Han Chu-ho, director-general of the Resources Development Bureau at the Ministry of Energy and Resources, says, citing not only two intensive feasibility studies but the positive position of both countries buoyed by the recent Korean-USSR summit talks in the south Korean southern island of Cheju.

He disclosed the 10 most "economic and profitable" projects yesterday, saying that the ministry is planning to urge Korean corporations to form a consortium to start co-exploration projects in a bid to avoid fierce competition between them.

The plan unveiled by the ministry put Khabarovsk Prouvou Urmi metal mine, Urgal coal mine and Sakhalin offshore oilfields on a short-term project list scheduled to begin in the first half of next year.

The Prouvou Urmi metal mine rich in tin, copper and tungsten covers an area of 5,000 sq. km in Khabarovsk with reserves of 35 million tons. Hyundai Resources Development Co., Lucky-Goldstar, Samsung and Daewoo are now showing keen interest in developing the Soviet metal mine. They are to form a consortium to set up a 50-50 joint venture with their Soviet counterparts.

Total investment will amount to $100-200 million and yearly production will reach 1 million tons by 1993.

Urgal coal mine has reserves of 150 million tons. Hyundai and Daewoo want to move into the project to produce 2-3 million tons of coal per annum with total investment estimated at $100-200 million.

Attention also focuses on two offshore oilfields in Sakhalin with six exploration drillings already completed. The two oilfields are Okroznoe and Uiglikuty. The former is located in the central-eastern part of the Soviet Far East island and could provide a total production of 25 million barrels of sweet crude. The ministry also predicts the production of some 20 million barrels of high-sulfur crude from Uiglikuty in northern Sakhalin.

Han said a draft will be outlined in May to establish a joint venture between Tongwon Consolidated Coal Mine Development Co. of Korea and Sakhalin Offshore Oil & Gas Corp. of the Soviet Union to develop the two lucrative oilfields.

Meanwhile, the ministry plans to develop Sakhalin Lunskoye natural gas tract and Chita Udakan copper mine on a mid-term basis. Udakan is known to have reserves of 700 million tons of copper. Lucky-Goldstar, Hyundai, Daewoo and Samsung want to take part in developing Udakan copper to build a joint venture with the Soviet state, investing a total of $1 billion.

The Lunskoye gas tract has been extensively explored since 1984 and is proved to be economically viable. The Soviet Union said its gas reserves were estimated at 230 million tons to provide an annual production of 8 million tons over 30 years.

Aside from the five short- and mid-term projects, the ministry's long-term project list includes Elgynsk coal mine and natural gas block in Yakut and a range of joint oil refining reconstruction projects in Angarst and Archinsk.

Trade Increase With PRC, USSR Predicted

SK3004013391 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Apr 91 p 8

[Text] Trade with the Soviet Union, China and Eastern European countries will amount to $7.8 billion this year and rise to $25.6 billion by 1995.

In 1995, these countries will account for 12 percent of the nation's global trade, the Korea Institute for Economics and Technology predicted yesterday.

Affiliated with the Trade-Industry Ministry, the think tank said that trade with China will reach $4.28 billion this year with $1.77 billion in exports and $2.51 billion in imports.

Items exported to China are mainly such industrial products as textiles, electronics and steel.

Products Imported from China are generally primary industrial and agricultural goods such as corn, coal and crude oil.

The institute forecast that trade with China will hit $10.59 billion in 1995 with exports of $5.34 billion and imports of $5.25 billion.

It also said that Korean investment in China will amount to $1 billion in 1995.

The rapid expansion in trade and direct investment with China is chiefly ascribed to Beijing's eighth five-year economic development plan.

The institute said that trade with the Soviet Union will stand at $2 billion this year with $1.2 billion in exports and $800 million in imports.

Various consumer products such as electrics and electronics will lead shipments to the Soviet Union, propelled by Seoul's economic aid to Moscow.

Korea will provide a $3 billion economic aid package to the Soviet Union over the next three years beginning this year.

The package includes the supply of $1.5 billion in tied loans to help the Soviet Union purchase Korean-made consumer products.

Of the total tied loans, $800 million will be provided this year and the remaining $700 million will be evenly supplied next year and in 1992.

Trade with the Soviet Union in 1995 will reach $9 billion with exports of $4.5 billion and $4.5 billion imports.

The institute said that Korean investment in the Soviet Union will be focused on joint venture projects related to consumer products on a short term basis.

It predicted that the Korean development of forestry in the Soviet Far East will be greatly accelerated.

Trade with Eastern Europe this year is forecast at $1.5 billion with exports of $1 billion and imports of $500 million.

Korea will mainly export color TVs, video cassette recorders (VCRs), automobiles, ships and textiles, while importing steel, metals, machinery and chemicals.

In 1995, trade with the Eastern bloc will climb to $6 billion with $3.5 billion in exports and $2.5 billion in imports.

The institute called upon the government to carry out the northern policy without hampering the development of relations between South and North Korea, while further strengthening ties with the United States, the 12-member European Community, Japan and other free countries.

* Swiss Official Comments on Objectives of Visit

91EN0456A Geneva JOURNAL DE GENEVE in French 4 Apr 91 p 15

[Unattributed ATS report from Seoul: "Swiss Aid for the Environment"]

[Text] "Europe's importance must not lead Switzerland to neglect the rest of the world, particularly Asia and the Pacific area, where rates of economic growth could make the industrialized countries green with envy," Federal Counselor Jean-Pascal Delamuraz said on Wednesday at the end of his three-day visit to South Korea.

The head of the Public Economy Department expressed satisfaction before the South Korean press with the scope of exchanges between Switzerland and South Korea which doubled in the past five years to exceed the 1 billion francs mark in value. He also noted that Switzerland was the fourth largest investor in South Korea.

"We can and must do more along the lines of intensifying technology transfers, reinforcing joint ventures between Swiss and South Korean firms, and increasing the flux of our exports and imports," Mr. Delamuraz said.

In view of the serious ecological catastrophes currently confronting South Korea, the Federal Counselor undertook to persuade the Korean authorities to cooperate with Swiss enterprises endowed with a wealth of key technology in the area of environmental protection.

"In the second half of this year we will send a delegation of Swiss businessmen to South Korea to study means of technological cooperation with local enterprises in environmental areas," stressed Mr. Kurt Meier, secretary general of the Swiss Association of Machine Builders.

The 15 Swiss employers accompanying Mr. Delamuraz on his trip to South Korea and Singapore declared themselves very satisfied with the quality of the contacts they were able to establish with the South Korean Government and industrialists through Mr. Delamuraz.

Mr. Andreas Leuenberger, second in command of Hoffmann-La Roche, who served much of his career in Japan; Mr. Pierre Borgeaud, the head of Sulzer and of Vorort; and Mr. Wolfgang Marti, one of the main managers of Ascom have been following Mr. Delamuraz on all his stages of his Asian trip.

"This visit by the Federal Counselor is extremely useful. The major Swiss employers have realized the entire potential of his endeavor. Within 10 years Switzerland quadrupled its exchanges with South Korea. This is a market with a future, even more so if you consider its reunification prospects.

"In the financial sector, Swiss banks have already conducted capital operations for South Korea. We are well regarded here and we intend to reinforce our presence," commended Mr. Guido Hanselmann, president of the Swiss-South Korean Economic Cooperation Committee and adviser to the management of the Swiss Banking Union.

On Thursday morning the Swiss delegation will fly to Singapore, where it will remain until 7 April before returning to Switzerland.

Students Around Country Stage Demonstrations

SK3004022091 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Riot police indiscriminately fired teargas canisters last night to break up tens of thousands of mourners in front of Yonsei University in Seoul who were protesting the killing of a Myongji University student by police last Friday.

Ralliers, however, refrained from using firebombs or stones in condolence of the death of Kang Kyong-tae, an economics freshman who fell victim of the police atrocity during a demonstration near the Myongji campus.

Police allowed the on-campus mourning rally, but later they sealed off the university and the adjoining Severance Hospital, where the body of the student was kept, to block their marching into the street.

In defiance, the mourners tried to break the police line only to be turned back by the riot police.

Sporadic demonstrations were held until midnight around Sinchon in southern Seoul where five universities were clustered.

Representatives from the largest opposition New Democratic Union, the Democratic Party and the People's Party also attended the rally.

The peacefull rally opened at 5 p.m. and lasted for three hours with the participation of Kang's parents and sister.

Almost simultaneously in major provincial cities, ralliers clashed with riot police while trying to march into downtown areas.

Students of over 30 local universities such as Pusan National University also held similar rallies and took to the streets.

Earlier, the pan-national conference said in a joint press meet that a series of commemorative gatherings to mourn the students's death will be held until May 4.

The conference called on students and other participants to wear black ribbons to pay tribute to the dead student.

Leading members of the conference also said that they will support activities of the labor circle which wants to mark May Day by taking the day off.

In a rally at Yonsei University Saturday, student protestors didn't use firebombs and stones and riot police fired water canons instead of tear gas.

On Sunday night, about 400 students, shouting slogans and distributing leaflets, launched a rally in front of Seoul Railroad Station.

The students demanded in the leaflets that the government step down taking responsibility for the police beating.

"Kang's death was not an accident but an avoidable incident in the course of the government's brutal crackdown on the democratic movement," it added.

About 100 students launched a surprise rally in the crowded Myongdong streets, denouncing the government and the police for Kang's death but they were soon dispersed by riot police.

Government Accused of Indifference to Pollution

SK2704015391 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] The government's indifference towards environmental protection was harshly criticized by lawmakers during an interpellation on economic affairs yesterday.

Specifically questioned was the recurring pollution of the Naktong River, which is the source of tap water for the populous Kyongsang region, by poisonous phenol leaked from an electronic parts plant of the Doosan Electro-Material Co.

The legislators also strongly demanded that urgent steps be taken by the administration against the emission of fatal carbonbisulfide by the Wonjin Rayon Co. located in Migum city on the outskirts of Seoul.

Rep. Yi Chol-yong of the major opposition New Democratic Union [NDU] buffeted the government's "lack of enthusiasm" for anti-pollution efforts, arguing, "No Cabinet ministers in charge of environmental affairs showed up at the pollution site until three days had passed after the second contamination of the Naktong River was reported."

He blasted the discrepancy of views on the danger of phenol between government agencies, pointing out that prosecutors arrested those responsible for the discharge of phenol while the Construction Ministry as well as the mayor of Taegu was insisting that the leakage was so small that it would not harm anyone.

"I have information that Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu ordered the Environmental Administration to lift the operating ban on the Doosan company in the interest of the firm," Yi alleged.

He went on to disclose that the Pisan industrial dyeing complex in Taegu offered a total of 50 million won in political funds to eight local chapters of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] last June. "This is substantiated by the trade union of the industrial complex. As a result, they can get away with dumping industrial waste into streams."

Five Assemblymen took the floor with questions. Four others were Yi Ung-son, Yi Yong-mun, Yi Hae-chan and Cho Yong-chang.

DLP Rep. Yi Ung-son called upon the administration to devise a system in which polluters should defray all associated costs for anti-pollution activities.

Pointing out that California-produced rice is illegally distributed in Korea, Rep. Yi Yong-mun demanded government statistics, asking, "How much of the rice is brought here for the use of U.S. troops and what percentage of that is leaked into the Korean market?"

NDU Rep. Yi Hae-chan claimed that the government abruptly changed some development-restricted land covering 180,000 pyong (one pyong equals 3.3 sq. m) into a housing construction site, resulting in approximately 300 billion won of profits for 400 land owners in the region.

He also said that 18 people in Sillim-tong, Seoul, who are receiving government benefits own sedans and that they are working as election campaigners for the ruling camp.

Deputy Prime Minister Choe told the National Assembly that it is hard to keep Korean markets closed against foreign agricultural produce.

He said a slight opening of the market will be inevitable regardless of government efforts. The position is a little different from an earlier one with regard to rice.

In answering the lawmakers criticism, Prime Minister No Chae-pong said Wednesday that the rice market would definitely not open.

Burma

Delegates Return From Border Talks in Thailand

BK2704152591 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Major General Maung Aye, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and commander of the Eastern Military Command, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] in a special military plane this afternoon after attending the fifth regular meeting of the Myanmar-Thai border committee held in Kanchanaburi in Thailand. The delegation consisted of Brigadier General Soe Myint, commander of the Southeast Military Command, and 22 other members.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command; Major General Thein Win, Air Force chief of staff; senior military officials; Foreign Ministry officials led by U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Department of the Foreign Ministry; Mr. Thawatjai Sundrarajun, Thai charge d'affairs ad interim; the Thai naval attache; and departmental officials.

The Myanmar delegation attended the meeting in Thailand from 21 to 27 April. While in Thailand, the Myanmar delegation led by Maj. Gen. Maung Aye held talks on bilateral border issues and relations, with the Thai delegation led by Lieutenant General (Santripin). While in Thailand the Myanmar delegation called on General Sunthon Khongsomphong, supreme commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces; General Suchinda Khraprayun, commander of the Royal Thai Army; and senior Thai military officials.

Minister, Delegates Leave for Harare UN Meeting

BK2504151991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Text] Lieutenant General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister of construction and cooperatives, and a Myanmar [Burmese] delegation left by air for Zimbabwe this afternoon at the invitation of the minister of public construction and national housing of Zimbabwe. The minister and his delegation will attend the 13th conference of the United Nations Human Settlements Commission in Harare from 29 April to 8 May.

The minister and his entourage were seen off at Yangon [Rangoon] airport by Lt. Gen. Sein Aung, minister of industry-1 and industry-2; Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon Military Command; Colonel Abel, minister of health and education and commander in chief of the University Corps; responsible officials of departments concerned under the Ministries of Construction and Cooperatives; the resident representative of the UN Development Program; and the consultant from UN Human Settlements Division.

One More NLD Officer Declared as Absconder

BK2704143091 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] It has been learned that Myint Aung, organizer of the National League for Democracy [NLD] for Mandalay Division and son of U Nyi Pu and Aung Moe Zaw who is secretary of the Democratic Party for New Society and son of U Than Aung, have been charged at the Bahan Township court under Sections 5A, 5B, and 5J of the 1950 Emergency Act and Section 512 of the Penal Code and declared as absconders for joining Sein Win's parallel government at Manerplaw camp of the KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents.

Opposition Blames New NLD Lineup on Coercion

BK2804032491 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 91 p 4

[Text] The removal of U Tin U and Aung San Suu Kyi from the National league for Democracy [NLD] leadership is totally illegitimate, the Burmese opposition group said.

U Tin U and Aung San Suu Kyi were removed from the positions of NLD chairman and general secretary by the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) late last month, the Working People's Daily reported recently.

The group's Central Executive Committee (CEC) was reorganised with U Aung Shwe as chairman, U Iwin as secretary and eight others as members, the paper said.

The NLD claimed that the reorganisation of the committee apparently resulted from coercion, terrorism and intimidation by the ruling military junta.

SLORC on Destructive Elements, Development

BK3004025991 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General Phone Myint, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister for home and religious affairs and for culture and information; and Major General Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; visited Kyauktaw and Myauk-u on 28 April and met with departmental authorities.

Lt. Gen. Phone Myint and Maj. Gen. Tin U, accompanied by Brigadier General Maung Maung, chairman of the Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Efficient Flow of Commodities and for Stabilizing Prices of Commodities and commander of the 502d Air Force Camp; senior departmental authorities; and responsible officials from the Office of the SLORC left Rangoon in an Air Force plane at 0720 on 28 April and arrived in Sittwe at 0845. [passage omitted] The minister and the secretary-2, accompanied by the commander of the Western Military Command, then left in helicopters and arrived at Kyauktaw at 1000.

The minister and the secreatary-2 arrived at Kyauktaw High School where they were welcomed by Lieutenant Colonel Kyar Nyo Chit Khin, acting Western Command commander and staff officers; Major San Thein, chairman of Kyauktaw Township Law and Order Restoration Council; Rakhine Satate departmental officials; teachers; students; and members of the Red Cross Society. The minister and the secretary-2 held a meeting at the school with members of the local law and order restoration council, departmental officials, public servants, and teachers and addressed the meeting. The departmental authorities accompanying the minister and the secretary-2 and the local authorities discussed local development projects and education and health matters and carried out necessary measures.

The minister and the secretary-2 and the entourage then visited Kyaungyahat village in Kyauktaw and inspected local security measures and military operation and gave necessary instruction to authorities concerned. The entourage then proceeded to Myauk-u where they were welcomed by Major Myat Win, commander of the military column of the 34th Infantry Regiment; Captain Myint Soe, chairman of the Myauk-u Township Law and Order Restoration Council; township departmental authorities; public servants; and students. The minister and the secretary-2 then held a meeting with members of the local law and order restoration council and departmental officials and addressed the meeting.

The chairman of the local law and order restoration council briefed the minister and the secretary-2 on the local situation, construction projects under progress, and future projects. The secretary-2 and departmental authorities responded to topics submitted regarding construction of a station hospital, a township sports stadium, Kyauktaw-Myauk-u road, and Minhtut Creek Bridge, water supply for the town, procurement of an X-ray machine, completion of two station hospitals, and paving of roads. After the meeting the entourage returned to Sitwe where they spent the night.

Speaking at the meetings, the minister and the secretary-2 said they had come to the region to find out about the living conditions of the local people and to give necessary assistance. They said the SLORC is continuing its three major tasks, which are known to all, and is working for the interests of the people. They said they had recently visited Kyauktaw and Myauk-u and attended to the needs of the townships and that they had come to Kyauktaw and Myauk-u to meet with departmental authorities and local people to attend to their needs. They said Kyauktaw and Myauk-u were once peaceful and stable townships. However, curently, destructive elements are beginning to undermine these peaceful and developing townships. They added that since these destructive elements are capable of undermining local development endeavors and the security of towns and villages, it will be necessary for departmental authorities and public servants present at the meeting to join the SLORC and the Defense Services in crushing these destructive elements and that they must make utmost efforts to protect the lives and property of the local people who want to live in peace. They said necessary assistance will be given and that departmental authorities from various ministries in the entourage would coordinate with the authorities from Kyauktaw and Myauk-u to attend to their needs. They said they are attending to the development of Kyauktaw and Myauk-u and that they had come to these townships to promote rural development and local peace and prosperity.

They said the political situation in Myanmar [Burma] today is stable, and that similarly, the security situation is stable. They said the BCP [Burma Communist Party] has disintegrated and that other insurgents organizations which have come to realize our goodwill toward the state are beginning to cooperate with us. They said recently the Pa-o leaders have begun cooperating with us. They said it has been learned that an insignificant number of destructive elements are planning to undermine local peace and tranquility currently in the Rakhine State. They said since the Defense Services are working for the peace and tranquility in the country the public servants should render assistance in helping expose and crush these destructive elements.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Kaifu Departs for Visit to Thailand 30 Apr

BK3004034691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0337 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, April 30 (AFP)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left here Tuesday for Bangkok after a one day official visit.

Mr. Kaifu, the first Japanese premier to visit this oil-rich sultanate since its independence in 1984, met Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah for an hour on Monday.

The Japanese leader arrived here from Malaysia on the second leg of a tour of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) which will take him to Singapore and the Philippines, after Thailand.

While in Thailand Mr. Kaifu is expected to meet Thai King Phumiphon Adunyadet and hold talks with Cambodian non-communist resistance leaders.

Malaysia

Kaifu's View on EAEG Bloc Formation Analyzed

OW2804103891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0956 GMT 28 Apr 91

[By Kamatchy Sappani]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 28 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's noncommittal stance toward Malaysia's East Asia Economic Grouping (EAEG) idea is an example of Japan following the United States, Malaysian Government officials say.

The United States, some Asian and other nations are concerned by the Malaysian bloc proposal because they fear it may lead to trade protectionism.

Malaysian Government officials say Kaifu's current five-nation Southeast Asian tour is mainly to help pave the way for Japan to play a greater role in the region in the future beyond the economic sphere and to sound the leaders of Southeast Asia on what this role is to be.

"So long as it is unable to tear itself away from the apron strings of the U.S., Japan's capabilities as a world power will always be a question mark," the state-controlled BUSINESS TIMES DAILY said.

"In regional and international political, security, and economic matters, Japan appears to be under the thumb of the U.S.," a Malaysian Government official said.

Malaysian Government officials said Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed proposed an economic grouping of East Asian countries last December when the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks collapsed because the European Community and the United States were unable to agree over farm subsidies.

He envisaged a grouping that included the dynamic economies of South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), combined with the potential markets of China and Indochinese countries, they said.

The officials added that Mahathir wanted Japan, as the most industrialized nation in the region, to lead the group, stressing that the group will enhance free trade and not become a trade bloc.

Malaysian officials said the excluded countries, especially the United States, bluntly opposed it, saying the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, already served as an appropriate body.

Mahathir, however, told Kaifu that if the United States can form the North America free trade arrangement with Canada and Mexico and still take part in APEC, then East Asian countries can form their own grouping and still be members of APEC.

Malaysian officials said Kaifu then urged Mahathir to build a consensus among ASEAN countries first before going ahead with the proposal.

Western and Asian diplomats say that as Mahathir has still not thrashed out the details on what form the EAEG should take, it is not surprising that Japan is still cool to the idea.

Despite their disappointment over Kaifu's position on the EAEG, Malaysia does not oppose a greater role for Japan in the region that includes the political and security arena, officials said.

Kaifu, who arrived here Saturday on the first leg of his 10-day tour, leaves for Brunei on Monday and then visits Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines.

Possible Expansion of Defense Coverage Viewed

BK2904061891 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0418 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Members countries of the Five-Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) will have to further review its role in the future, including the possibility of increasing its area of defence coverage, Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Abdul Razak said here.

The FPDA groups Malaysia, Singapore, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. It was formed 20 years ago to provide a security umbrella for Malaysia and Singapore after Britain withdrew its forces east of Suez.

Under this arrangement, military exercises involving land, sea, and air forces of the five countries are held regularly in Malaysia and Singapore geared at improving coordination and cooperation.

"Although we believe that the present arrangements are very satisfactory, there was some discussion about how we should approach things in the future," he told reporters after the inaugural FPDA defence ministers' closed-door meeting here Sunday.

He said, however, that the FPDA had not made any stand on this matter because all the implications of such a review would have to be studied first.

Najib said matters, including defence coverage, activities and the command structure, would have to be discussed in detail by the chiefs of defence forces of the five countries.

The daily, THE STAR, quoted Najib as also saying that the FPDA may be expanded to include Brunei.

Talks were being planned to include the sultanate's armed forces in future FPDA exercises, he said.

The paper quoted him as saying that Brunei had indicated its interest in sending its military personnel to these exercises.

The FPDA nations, he said, had no objections.

During the defence chiefs' meeting last year, there were suggestions that the air defence coverage by the Integrated Air Defence System (IADS), which is based in Butterworth in the northwestern Penang state, be widened to include the East Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak in Borneo.

The air defence coverage within the FPDA, which is entrusted to the IADS only covers peninsular Malaysia and Singapore because "the current system is not wide enough to cover Sabah and Sarawak," said the Malaysian chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Hashim Mohamed Ali.

"We have to discuss the possibility of expanding the area of responsibility of the IADS Command headquarters in Butterworth or maybe set up another command in the eastern part of Malaysia," he added.

He said the officials had agreed to discuss the matter which would involve proper planning, costs, and further commitment of their forces.

The meeting of defence ministers from the FPDA nations was attended by Najib, Singapore's second minister for defence, Dr. Yeo Ning Hong, Australian Defence Minister Robert Ray, New Zealand Defence Minister Warren Cooper, and The Earl of Arron, undersecretary of state for the armed forces, United Kingdom. They were accompanied by their defence chiefs.

According to a joint statement after the meeting, the ministers discussed and exchanged views on regional strategic development and matters pertaining to the FPDA. It said the meeting marked a new development in the activities of the FPDA.

The ministers expressed their satisfaction with the current level of cooperation among the FPDA members and felt that there was good momentum for the future progress of the FPDA, the statement added.

They also reaffirmed the FPDA's significance as a viable consultative defence mechanism for the defence of Malaysia and Singapore from external aggression.

The ministers agreed to meet in Singapore in 1994 for the next triennial meeting.

Group of 15 Steering Committee Meeting Opens

BK3004074591 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0606 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 30 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Group of 15's ministerial steering committee begins a two-day meeting here Tuesday to review the progress of the organisation's projects and programmes and to set the agenda for the next group summit in Caracas in June.

The three-member steering committee, otherwise known as the "Troyka", comprises the foreign ministers of Malaysia, Senegal and Venezuela. It was established at last June's inaugural summit here, to coordinate the work of the G-15.

The meeting was chaired by Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his counterpartS Dr. Armando Duran of Venezuela and Djibo Laity Ka of Senegal.

"The meeting will review the projects agreed by the last summit, look into the agenda and logistics of the coming summit, and work out the items to be discussed," a Foreign Ministry official said.

The second G-15 summit is scheduled to be held from June 26-28 in Caracas, Venezuela.

Set up in June last year to promote greater economic cooperation among developing countries, the G-15 groups Malaysia, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Peru and Jamaica. At the last summit, three projects approved for implementation were a mechanism to promote bilateral trade among developing nations, [words indistinct] and a business and investment forum to promote South-South private sector cooperation.

Ten other projects from member countries have [word indistinct] the summit for possible implementation and would be further discussed at the coming summit.

Singapore

Deputy Premier Says Prosperous China No Threat

BK3004120491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1138 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Singapore, April 30 (AFP)—China's economic growth threatens no one, but a "stagnating and unstable" China would pose problems for the region, Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said.

Mr. Lee, who begins a two-week visit to China from Thursday, made the comment in an interview with the French business publication LA TRIBUNE DE L'EXPANSION, the text of which was released Tuesday to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"If China is stagnating and unstable, that is a troublesome factor for the region," said Mr. Lee, who is also Singapore's trade and industry minister.

"But if they are growing and prosperous and focusing their energies on peaceful purposes, and (not) evangelising and proselytising and promoting the export of revolution, then that is good for us," he said.

"They are a reality. This is 1.1 billion people and not an untalented population," he said.

Mr. Lee noted that China's economy was growing rapidly compared to the Soviet Union's, but said the growth has been only a fraction of what the Chinese "would like to achieve and what they are really capable of."

Moreover, the country faces a major challenge in promoting economic development and transforming its "command economy" to a "more market-oriented" one, he said.

Mr. Lee, eldest son of Singapore's former prime minister Lee Kuan Yew, predicted it would "take some time" for Southeast Asia's trade with mainland China to equal that with Taiwan.

He also said a trade embargo against Vietnam would not be lifted until the Cambodian issue was resolved. Vietnam installed the Phnom Penh Government in 1979 and continues to support it.

"The Vietnamese cannot indefinitely hold out if all superpowers have withdrawn their support," Mr. Lee said.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Returns From Tokyo, Bangkok Visits

BK3004054991 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 91

["Statement to compatriots" by Council of Ministers Chairman Comrade Hun Sen at Pochentong Airport on 29 April on returning from visits to Japan and Thailand, followed by questions from foreign correspondents—recorded]

[Text] I would like to speak a little bit in order to inform our compatriots that I went without informing the compatriots beforehand because this was an unofficial trip. I went to Tokyo because of health problems. That is, the Japanese Government, knowing about the illness that I experienced in Paris in December 1990, made a humanitarian gesture by inviting me to have a medical checkup there.

In Tokyo, I was accorded a warm reception by Japanese professors and doctors during my medical checkup. Also during my stay there, I had fruitful talks with the Japanese foreign minister and other Foreign Ministry officials as well as with the Diet speaker and members of various parties in the Diet. Our discussions focused on the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem. I observe that at present Japan is resolved to contribute to a political settlement of the Cambodian problem and has decided to help in rebuilding Cambodia after a political solution is reached.

Through our discussions, I found that the Japanese side also paid attention to the so-called worry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] with regard to the draft agreement worked out by the Big Five and the PICC [Paris International Conference on Cambodia] cochairmen. We also discussed some other issues related to bilateral relations.

I would like also to inform the compatriots that the Japanese side told us that the Japanese Government has decided to donate the first relief aid worth about $1 million, equivalent to nearly 1 billion riel, to our so-called war refugees. This aid is being given through the United Nations. Yesterday, I met with the special envoy of the UN secretary general in Bangkok. According to him, Japan's relief aid will be channelled through aid coordinators to Cambodia. The volume of relief aid is not big for us because we have many refugees due to the fighting initiated by the enemies, but it will help ease the difficulties for war refugees in the interior of our country.

On my way back from Tokyo, I had to pass through Bangkok. When I arrived there, I was welcomed by Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, minister in the Prime Minister's Office, and other Thai Foreign Ministry officials. That stopover on my way back home became a working visit to Bangkok. It was my first visit to Thailand as the SOC prime minister following the establishment of the new Thai Government. Yesterday and the day before yesterday, I had four separate meetings with Thai officials. The first was my meeting and dinner with the Thai foreign minister. The second was my meeting with General Sunthon, commander in chief of the Thai Armed Forces and chairman of the National Peacekeeping Assembly. The third was the summit meeting between myself and Prime Minister Anan during which the Thai foreign minister and other ministers and Foreign Ministry officials were also present. The fourth was my meeting and lunch with Army Commander in Chief General Suchinda.

I would like to inform our compatriots that my meetings in Bangkok were very useful and gave me a good chance because these meetings took place following an appeal made by the Paris Conference cochairmen and UN secretary general on a voluntary cease-fire starting 1 May 1991. The Thai Government and all Thai leaders whom I met with stressed to me that despite changes in the government, Thailand's policy toward the Cambodian problem remains unchanged and that Bangkok-Phnom Penh relations would be continued. The Thai Government will continue relations with all factions on equal terms and the fine ties that existed under the government of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan will be continued by the present government. All of this was repeatedly stressed by all Thai officials whom I met.

At the same time, the Thai Government and Thai leaders stressed that they would continue to take part in seeking a political solution to the Cambodian problem. I observed that at this point Thailand is really interested in and wants to see a peace that will lead toward restoring peace in her neighboring country and turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and cooperation.

The Thai Government also assured me of its strong support for the cease-fire process to be started soon which would encourage an earliest meeting of the SNC. The most common point I found during my visit is the Thai Govenment's confirmation that everything is to be decided by the SNC without outside pressure. This is the point we want to hear from them and want them to do since it is in keeping with the national sovereignty of our country represented by the SNC. The Thai Government strongly supported this process and encouraged an earliest meeting of the SNC.

In summary, I can say that my trip to Japan and Bangkok, which started as an unofficial and quiet one, turned into a good chance for an exchanges of views between the SOC and the Japanese Government and between the SOC and the Thai Government.

I would like to end this statement to the compatriots right here. Thank you.

Anyone who has questions, please go ahead. I am ready to answer a couple of them.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Hun Sen] We have cause to be optimistic, but there is some cause for us to have doubts. The cause of our optimism is twofold: First, this was an appeal by the PICC cochairmen and the UN secretary general with a specific date for the cease-fire; second, we have cause to be optimistic because our armed forces have already received the order to remain in place in order to halt all military operations. The Armed Forces of the State of Cambodia are units with specific camps and positions. Therefore, the readiness of our forces would surely create confidence in the cease-fire. At the same time, we also have some worries. We are worried on two counts: First, the rebel forces are scattered all over the country and, second, this cease-fire is not yet placed under any control. However, between optimism and worries, at this moment we are leaning much, much more toward the side of optimism. For this reason, we appeal to the other factions to be faithful in the implementation of their commitment to cease military activities. Mutual trust on the battlefield would help create mutual trust at the negotiating table scheduled to be held in Jakarta soon.

There remains another point that causes concern for us: The effectiveness of the cease-fire. In addition to the fact that there is yet to be any control and that rebel forces remain scattered, no promises to cease military aid have been made yet. The true effectiveness of the cease-fire surely depends on whether or not there is a continuation of arms supplies from abroad. For this reason, we appeal to all Cambodian factions to voluntarily stop accepting foreign military aid. We have arrived at a cease-fire to go into force on 1 May; consequently, accepting additional arms supplies would not be of any use whatsoever. We appeal to countries that provide military aid for Cambodian factions to end the supplies of arms to them, for sending additional arms to Cambodia can only encourage the resumption of the firing.

We also continue to appeal to our neighbors, namely Vietnam, Thailand, and Laos, to pledge not to use their territories to transit arms to the Cambodian factions. Therefore, we stress that anyone who wants more arms is the one who intends to violate the truce agreement.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Hun Sen] I would like to inform you that our proposal for a cease-fire and the cessation of military aid has been made since the end of 1987 when the first Sihanouk-Hun Sen negotiation was started. Since then, we have kept proposing a cease-fire and the cessation of military aid. This has always been our proposal. For this reason, there is no need to answer whether we accept it or not since it is what we have always wanted.

[Correspondent] We understand that point. But we want to know that your talks in Bangkok [words indistinct] or not?

[Hun Sen] To date, the Thai Government has not yet clearly stated its stance on this matter. However, what is important is that the Thai side has clearly stressed that if the Cambodian factions decided not to accept aid, Thailand would respect that decision. It is my understanding that this statement by the Thai side is rational because it shows that the decision of the Cambodian factions is prevailing. Therefore, the test of goodwill and compliance is now in the court of the Cambodian factions.

Now I feel that we should put an end to this session which is not a news conference, but a briefing that I intended to make to my compatriots after my return home.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Hun Sen] At this moment, it can be said that an agreement on a political solution is coming closer to its completion. It is true that if compared to a race, what I mean by closer to its completion is in fact the finish line. I am optimistic, of course, that we have agreed with each other on most of the points in the draft agreement document. The remaining problems are to be discussed further. I have been assured by the PICC cochairmen, France and Indonesia, that the remaining points of concern for the State of Cambodia will be included in the agenda of the Jakarta meeting. Moreover, the cease-fire to be observed tomorrow [as heard] also is a cause for mutual trust at this same negotiating table. However, I would like to stress that we still do not know about the real possibility of this cease-fire. But we have cause to be optimistic.

Hun Sen Remarks on Proposed Cease-Fire

BK2904122091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1120 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 29—Prime Minister Hun Sen was quoted by Radio Australia as stating in Bangkok Sunday that he hoped the proposed cease-fire in Cambodia's civil war would be implemented.

Speaking after meeting with the Thai foreign minister, Mr. Hun Sen said he believed the time was ripe for a cease-fire to come into effect in the 12-year-old conflict.

He said if the four warring parties showed keen interest in the cease-fire proposal, then it would be carried out.

The proposition for a temporary cease-fire starting on May 1 was made by the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and France and Indonesia, cochairmen of the PICC [Paris International Conference on Cambodia].

All sides in the Cambodian conflict including the government in Phnom Penh and the opposition coalition dominated by the Khmer Rouge have accepted the proposal.

Heng Samrin Speaks at Religious Ceremony

BK3004121791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Summary] On the afternoon of 28 April, a solemn religious ceremony was organized at the Sakayeamuni Chedei stupa in Phnom Penh to celebrate the Visakha Puja day and to inaugurate the stone stele marking the pipal tree planting in the Cambodian-Indian Friendship Park situated in front of the shrine.

Attending the festivity were Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's State Council; Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; Ms. Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairwoman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Nguon Nhel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and agriculture minister; Ney Pena, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Central Control Commission; General Sin Song, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and interior minister; Sim Ka, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of Phnom Penh City's party committee; and Kong Sam-ol, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister in charge of the Council of Ministers' cabinet, as well as other ministers and their deputies, general directors and their deputies, and several cadres from the departments and services at the central level.

After leading dozens of worshippers to circle the shrine three times, General Secretary Heng Samrin delivered the following speech:

[Begin Heng Samrin recording] Today is a solemn, happy, and glorious day when the party, government, and front join Buddhist monks and devotees all over the country in general and those in Phnom Penh City in particular to celebrate with faithful religious belief the Visakha Puja Day and to inaugurate the stone stele marking the planting of a pipal tree.

On behalf of the party, state, and front, I wish to profoundly thank and wholeheartedly and sincerely participate in making merit according the tradition to link the event to the rebirth of our national culture and civilization. The solemn festivity does not only bear the significance for the religious ceremony performed by our Buddhist followers, but it is also a clear testimony to the willingness of the State of Cambodia and the sincerity of our people, who have at all times aspired to recover peace, security, and harmony.

Respected clergy and dear guests of honor, Buddhist devotees, and compatriots. Since 1957, the Visakha Puja Day has formally been celebrated in the vicinity of the Sakyeamuni Chedei shrine in the capital city every year. It is worth recalling that the remains of the God Buddha has safely been kept in this stupa since the time when Cambodia celebrated the 2,500th anniversary of the Buddhist Era from 12-18 May 1957. Since then on the full moon day of May, all the Buddhist monks and followers have worshipped the Lord Buddha's remains in front of this Sakyeamuni Chedei shrine every year. However, under the genocidal Pol Pot regime of three years, eight months, and 20 days between 1975 and 1978, this stupa became a target of contempt, disrespect, and destruction by the Polpotist clique. They trampled underfoot and totally eradicated our people's religious belief, and completely discarded this ceremony.

The victory on 7 January 1979 has revived the Cambodian society and vindicated the spiritual and material value of Cambodian history. Moreover, Buddhism revered by the people has been restored and Buddhist devotees rehabilitated. This is to enable our people to perform their worship and to continue to safeguard the survival of the ancient civilization and culture of land of Angkor and the fine tradition of our nation. This shrine, which was badly destroyed by the genocidal Pol Pot regime, has properly been restored and since 13 April 1989, the remains of Lord Buddha as well as other sacred things have prudently and appropriately been safeguarded here for our people to worship. Along with this, a pipal tree donated by the Indian Government was planted in the Cambodian-Indian Friendship park in front of this shrine on 2 November 1990 as well. This is also for the reverence of the Buddhist followers. And to mark the planting of the sacred pipal tree in this park, our party, government, and front have also exhibited here a stone stele that we will unveil shortly.

Now I would like to address the following prayer to the sacred remains of the Lord Buddha:

Respected Lord Buddha, it is now 2,535 years since your birth. Although you have passed away, your sacred remains and your noble and valuable teachings are still alive to this day. Both Cambodian Buddhist monks and devotees have worshipped, learned, and followed your precepts for ages. Today, we, your faithfuls, bring here candles, incense sticks, flowers, and so on to pay respect and express gratitude to Your Lord. So, please, Lord Buddha, accept our respect and the sacrificial objects presented to you here. We wish to pray to you to help protect your faithfuls and the compatriots all over the country, making them zealously healthy and powerful so they will be capable of prevailing over all manner of enemies from all directions. This is to enable them to jointly rebuild the Cambodian motherland and to achieving peace and security for good. With the might of the remains of the Lord Buddha and the sacred pipal tree, may the countries all over the world stop nursing malevolence and hostility against each other, turn to mutual understanding and good relationship, and be willing to help and assist each other within the framework of humanity with the view of achieving an early and lasting peace and security on our planet.

Compatriots currently staying with the other Cambodian side, please, turn to the virtue of truthfulness and think of the destiny of the nation, motherland, and people, as well as the future of yourselves and your own families. You should put a halt to the actions detrimental to your own nation and religion and return to joining your families and society as quickly as possible. This is to join forces to rebuild the motherland, clearing the way for the happiness of our children in the generations to come. The motherland, the people, and your families and relatives are waiting to welcome you back day and night.

May all the Buddhist monks and devotees, ladies and gentlemen, and compatriots have the best of health, zealous physical strength, happiness, and longevity. [end recording]

Chea Sim Gives Interview on Religion

BK2804142391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 Apr 91

[National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim's interview with PRACHEACHON correspondent on development of religion in Cambodia; date and place of interview not given—read by announcer]

[Text] [Correspondent] Following the announcement by our revolutionary party of the policy on promoting the freedom of religion, what are the regions which are prevailing in Cambodia at present? And what are their developments?

[Chea Sim] As we have already known. Before 1975, the people in Cambodia had a tradition of worshiping various religions for this is the heritage of their ancestors. Buddhism, existing in Cambodia for ages, has been revered by our people—who are candid, humble, and sincere—and has become the foundation of the nation's culture and civilization. Moreover, Buddhism has also been making headway alongside with the twist and turn process of the country's history and has broadly been revered by our people all over the country. Celebration of some Buddhist ceremonies has become the custom of the people and the society. According to the figures we have obtained, there were nearly 6,000 monasteries and over 65,000 Buddhist monks in Cambodia before 1975.

Apart from Buddhism, there are also the Islamic and Christian religions. Before 1975, Islam was practiced by the Cham minority ethnic group, which was living in harmony with the Cambodian people throughout the country, and there were 113 Muslim mosques and some 1,000 Muslim religious leaders. As for the Christian religion, it was introduced to Cambodia by French colonialists and was only venerated by a few Cambodians. This religion is mostly worshipped by foreigners who were working or staying temporarily in Cambodia. There were only a few churches in Phnom Penh and some provinces.

On the day of victory 17 April 1975, the genocidal Pol Pot regime, which plundered power by betraying the people and the nation, applied the policy of systematically slaughtering the people and ruining the society spiritually, materially, and technically in the most barbarous manner, unprecedented in the history of mankind. They have considered religions reactionary elements of the society and have eradicated all of them. As such, during the period of only three years, eight months, and 20 days, the genocidal Pol Pot regime's atheist clique massacred 25,168 Buddhist monks and 759 Muslim religious leaders and destroyed 1,968 monasteries and 113 mosques. They also killed Christians and completely destroyed churches. Religious persons spared from the slaughter were forced to live with no religion; anything with a religious character, such as an artistic edifice, was completely demolished.

The rebirth of our people and society on 7 January 1979 commenced with the restoration of religious freedom as defined in the 11-point program of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense.

From the rubble and the chaotic socioeconomic situation where famine was prevailing, the majority of people were wearied, and the women were outnumbered, and especially the state had to salvage the unsupported widows and orphans who are the legacy bequeathed by the genocidal Pol Pot regime, the development of Buddhism and other religions was limited at the first stage. That was the concrete situation of our society.

At that time, men who wanted to become monks needed to be at least 50 years-old. The criterion was made to comply with the concrete situation of our country. However, in accordance with the gradual material improvement of our people's living which has become more stable, the party, state, and front have step by step eased the regulation. In particular, Circular No. 3 has provided the people with freedom to enter into the monkhood with no age limit. As a matter of fact, there are 21,816 monks in the country to date and 2,813 monasteries are being restored or rebuilt. Monastery committees and organizational structure of Buddhism are reorganized; monastic hierarchy in cities, provinces, and districts are restored. Moreover, 87 Buddhist teaching schools are reopened throughout the country, and the work of researching and compiling Buddha's precepts is resumed along with reopening the Buddhist academy. International relations between Cambodian Buddhist organizations and their overseas counterparts are promoted.

Mosques are actively restored, Muslim religious leadership reorganized, and relations with overseas Islam organizations and the World Islamic Council enhanced. Since 1988, every year 20 Muslim devotees have attended the Haj ritual in Saudi Arabia.

As for the Christian religion with its few worshippers surviving the genocidal Pol Pot regime, it only began to develop in 1990. The party, state, and front have in principle permitted the religion to reconstruct a suitable cathedral in Phnom Penh City for the Christians who are Cambodians, foreigners, or diplomatic corps in the country to worship.

In sum, over the past 12 years everything destroyed or abolished by the genocidal Pol Pot regime has been restored or reestablished. By all appearances, freedom of belief and freedom of religion have been revived and progressively developed by the party, state, and front with the view of serving the needs of each religion's devotees.

[Correspondent] In the process of developing the religions, active, and passive factors are inevitably found together. As such, what is the impact of those factors on the national defense and construction movement?

[Chea Sim] In general, during the past 12 years, our party, state, and front have been extremely pleased to see that the religions in Cambodia have actively contributed to the national construction and defense cause. Every year, hundreds of millions of riel are donated by generous people as contribution toward promoting development in the social, health, educational, communication, and agricultural fields. Religious people have firmly united around the party, state, and front to oppose the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, to abide by the state law, and to contribute to educating the people and masses to do good deeds and uphold dignity, equality, justice, fraternity, and humanity against swindling and base, sinful, barbarous, and insane actions. Moreover, they have also provided impetus in instigating the survival of the spirit of the national culture, civilization, and tradition as well.

Of course, a small part of religious activities remains passive and needs to be improved and overhauled on a timely basis. However, the important issue is to link the activities, generosity, and identity of the society, each religion's worship, and the precepts of each religion's god to the state law. Solving the remaining problems requires well-defined measures suitable to the concrete circumstances and situation. Another problem that needs to be confronted is the need to prevent all manner of enemies from carrying out their attempted maneuvers to use religious trademarks to destroy the religion and our State of Cambodia.

The enemies are attempting to carry out a poisonous stratagem in using religion as a weapon to destroy our inner circle's solidarity, to play both ends against the middle, and to diminish the people's confidence in our new regime.

[Correspondent] What is the support our party and state plan to give to the religions so their followers with a spirit of unity can contribute to constructing and defending a Cambodia with independence, peace, liberty, and social progress?

[Chea Sim] In keeping with the concrete situation of our society, our party, state, and front have at all times paid attention to every religion and are ready to sincerely cooperate with it. We have no intention whatsoever in standing in the way of any religion's development, provided that religion adheres to the advice of its god and the state law. Every Cambodian is free to believe or not believe in any religion. And we object to any move to coerce the people into believing in this or that religion against their own free wills. Because religion should be in harmony with society without any discrimination or distinction, it is imperative to avoid using all forms of attacks or means to denigrate one another. This is against the state law. Religious devotees are free to choose any religious sect according to their liking, but they should avoid bickering, conflicting, and defaming one another because this is opposed to the teaching and regulations of each religion. It is necessary that all the religions, sects, and tendencies recognize each other and join forces in promoting the development of religion and society's harmony, dignity, and prosperity. This is the common need of our society and the followers of every religion. The party, state, and front are duty- bound to implement their respective tasks in order to bring the aforesaid objective to success.

Hun Sen Thanks Kaysone Phomvihan for Greetings

BK2904070691 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, has sent a message of thanks to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The message noted:

I sincerely thank you for your warm greetings on my 40th birthday.

I am convinced that the bond of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between our two peoples of Cambodia and Laos will be further strengthened and developed.

May you enjoy good health and greater successes in carrying out your noble duty.

Chea Sim Leaves For 4-Day Visit to Laos

BK3004070391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0446 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 30 Apr (SPK)—A high-ranking delegation of the National Assembly and United front for National Construction and Defense of Cambodia [KUFNCD] left Monday, 29 April, for a four-day friendly visit to Laos at the invitation of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly. The delegation, led by Chea Sim, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council; also included Mat Ly, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the National Assembly and of the KPRP Central Committee Control Commission; Nu Beng, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and Min Khin, secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council.

The delegation was seen off at Pochentong Airport by General Bou Thang, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Army; Chea Soth, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of ministers; Sar Kheng, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chief of the offices and chairman of the Organization Commission of the KPRP Central Committee, and other high-ranking personalities.

Men Sam-an Leads Trade Delegation to Laos

BK3004071391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0443 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 30 Apr (SPK)—A delegation of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions [KFTU] headed by KFTU chairman Mrs. Men Sam-an, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee Political Bureau, left Phnom Penh on 29 April for a four-day visit to Laos at the invitation of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions. The delegation of seen off by Say Siphon, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the KFTU, and other personalities.

Party Delegation Returns From Lao Visit 26 Apr

BK2604132191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] During its stay in the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 17 to 26 April 1991, the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party delegation headed by Comrade Im Chhunlim, member of the party Central Committee, first deputy chief of the party Central Committee Cabinet, and member of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, was cordially received by and had working sessions with several important institutions of the Lao party and state. These institutions included the party political high school, the Central Committee Organization Commission, the Central Committee Propaganda and Education Commission, the Foreign Relations Commission of the party Central Committee, and the Commerce and Tourism Ministries.

The delegation paid keen attention to the reports of the leaders of the above institutions explaining experiences and views on principled reforms of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], which were elaborated and adopted by the fifth party congress late last March.

Imbued with the above findings, the delegation also visited a number of agricultural and production bases as well as the Nam Ngum hydroelectric dam.

Before returning home, the delegation was cordially received by Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly, in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and solidarity. On that occasion, Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan expounded some experiences gained in determining the strategic policy of the LPRP on defense and reconstruction of the Lao motherland as outlined by the fifth party congress. He also emphasized the steadily growing and consolidating traditions of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries.

In his return speech, head of the delegation Comrade Im Chhunlim expressed most profound and sincere thanks to the Lao party, government, and people for creating all favorable conditions to crown the delegation's experience-seeking visit with success, enabling them to see even more clearly the brilliant success of the LPRP's Fifth Congress. The comrade delegation head also wished the traditions of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the two parties, governments, and peoples would remain fresh and strong forever.

The delegation returned to Pochentong Airport at 1030 on 26 April 1991. It was greeted by Comrade Khoy Khunhuor, member of the party Central Committee and first vice chairman of the Central Committee Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Prum Sokha, deputy chief of the party Central Committee Cabinet; Comrade Prach Sun, vice chairman of the party Central Committee Foreign Relations Commission, and many cadres from the Central Committee Cabinet, Central Committee Organization Commission, and Central Committee Propaganda and Education Commission.

The second secretary of the Lao Embassy was also on hand.

Vietnam Constructs 'Secret Trail' From Kratie

BK2804072391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] According to a report reaching the VOK newsroom, Vietnam has constructed a secret trail from National Route 13 in Snuol District of Kratie Province to the Vietnamese border for the purpose of smuggling timber from Cambodia to Vietnam. This trail is under the maximum protection of Vietnamese troops.

The reports points out that the trail is built from Khsoem village in Dong commune through thick jungle and hills to the border of Mondolkiri Province, some 20 km from the Vietnamese border. It is the most important route for the Vietnamese to truck Cambodia's timber to Vietnam.

In the meantime, a group of Vietnamese-appointed Cambodian officials, including Hun Sen's subordinates, have reportedly colluded to create a mixed team in Kratie Province with the aim of lining their own pockets with the cash from the timber and rubber exploitation.

Another report says that some Cambodian officials have misappropriated many hectares of land and turned it into their own pepper plantation. They have even gone so far as to destroy rubber saplings to establish their own pepper plantation as well.

Most of the population in Kratie Province are poor because of drought and oppression committed by the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin regime against them.

Khieu Samphan Greets New PRC Deputy Minister

BK3004065991 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Message of congratulations from Khieu Samphan, Cambodian vice president in charge of Foreign Affairs, to Xu Dunxin, PRC deputy foreign minister]

[Text] To His Excellency Xu Dunxin, deputy foreign minister of the PRC, Beijing:

We are very happy to learn that your excellency has been appointed deputy foreign minister. We would like to extend warmest best wishes for you to achieve great successes in your noble mission. Availing ourselves of this occasion, we, all Cambodian national resistance forces and Cambodian people, would like to express our deepest and wholeheartedly sincere gratitude to the people and government of the PRC for the valuable support and assistance given to our Cambodian people's struggle. May the long-standing traditional bond of friendship and solidarity that exists between our two countries and peoples further strengthen and expand forever.

With warmest friendship,

[Signed] Khieu Samphan

[Dated] 23 April 1991

Commentary on Hun Sen's Statement in Thailand

BK2904122391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Political commentary: "Mr. Hun Sen, Please Do Not Say Something Contrary to Reality"]

[Text] During his recent stay in Bangkok, Thailand, Mr. Hun Sen told reporters that the Cambodian problem should be settled by the Cambodians themselves. VOK [Voice of the Khmer] does not object to Mr. Hun Sen's statement. However, we wish to clearly elaborate on the real meaning of the wording: The Cambodian problem should be resolved by the Cambodians themselves.

First of all, we wish to make a few comments about the meaning of Mr. Hun Sen's statement, which was issued when the Vietnamese and his group were opposed to a number of necessary measures of the Big Five's peace plan concerning disarmament and the United Nations having an enhanced role in Cambodia during the transitional period. The Hun Sen faction has been against those important provisions by arguing that the United Nations will encroach upon Cambodian sovereignty, and by using the Khmer Rouge as a pretext, and so on. Nevertherless, the cochairmen—France and Indonesia—have not so far accepted the reasons advanced by Mr. Hun Sen's group. As such, Mr. Hun Sen's statement that the Cambodian problem should be settled by the Cambodians themselves is aimed at the cochairmen. In other words, neither the cochairmen nor any other foreign country can force the Cambodians to accept any measure designed to settle the Cambodian problem if the Cambodian parties disagree.

Reacting to the statement, VOK wishes to make the following remarks:

We accept the general meaning of the statement, which is that the Cambodian problem should be brought to a conclusion by the Cambodians themselves. Nevertheless, we wish to reject Hun Sen's intention and stance on making this statement, because this has clearly demonstrated that his faction continues to object to the peace plan hammered out by the Big Five with a view to restoring peace within the framework of genuine independence to Cambodia. The Cambodian resistance movement and all the peace- and justice-loving countries worldwide have already fully endorsed the peace blueprint instead.

With the statement, Mr. Hun Sen means that the Cambodian group the Vietnamese have shored up has the right to accept or reject the international plan, for this is the prerogative of the Cambodians, owners of the country. At first, Mr. Hun Sen's wording apppears to be very reasonable. But when the real situation in Cambodia is taken into account, the statement by the crooked Hun Sen turns out to be completely against reality.

The factor that will resolve the Cambodian problem once and for all is neither the Hun Sen faction, Vietnam, nor the resistance side, but the outcome of free elections in which the Cambodian people cast their votes. By all means, all the parties should consent to allow for a definitive settlement. As such, Mr. Hun Sen's faction, which is only a tiny group propped up by the Vietnamese, should agree to the measures defined in the Big Five's peace plan. This makes a conclusive solution possible and does not mean unjustly applying coercion or pressure on Mr. Hun Sen's group or any other party, but it is justice for the Cambodian people that the Cambodian people deserve. The opposition by Mr. Hun Sen's group to the Big Five's blueprint is a stumbling block to the opportunity for the Cambodian people to be allowed to resolve Cambodia's problems via a correct and just comprehensive solution.

In sum, the words uttered by Hun Sen that the Cambodian problem should be settled by the Cambodians themselves does not signify that he himself defends Cambodia's interests and rights—but those of the Vietnamese instead. As the statement is tantamount to openly giving a knife to the Vietnamese, we feel we are obligated to make the aforesaid clarification.

VOK, which represents the will of every Cambodian, is of the opinion that at this final stage, Mr. Hun Sen's group should stop listening to and serving Vietnam's policy. The definitive key to peace and ending the suffering of the Cambodian people depends on the decision of your party, which is expected to come in out of the rain and turn to the right course. Your group must choose to betray the Vietnamese for the sake of national interest, and you must choose not to betray your country and help the Vietnamese unconditionally.

Commentary on Vietnam's Role in Settlement

BK2904103991 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Station commentary: "The International Community Must Not Allow Vietnam To Ruin Its Efforts at Will"]

[Text] On 23 April Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said the international community must not allow anyone to ruin the fruits of its hard work and that it must ask Vietnam and the Phnom Penh puppets to accept the framework documents of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and the draft agreement of the Paris conference as soon as possible. He added that the crux of the Cambodian question now lies with the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh puppets.

This is true. A firm basis exists for settlement of the Cambodian problem—that is, the five UNSC permanent members' framework document, the Jakarta document dated 10 September 1990, UNSC Resolution No. 668, the Paris draft agreement dated 26 November 1990, and the Paris joint communique dated 23 December 1990.

Not all these results were easily achieved. They were the fruits of the vigorous efforts and tense and arduous struggle conducted in the past more than 12 years between the Cambodian national resistance forces and the international community on the one side, and Vietnam and its puppets on the other. These documents have been generally welcomed by the world community because they are the most reasonable and correct documents, and they only demand that Vietnam withdraw all its aggressor troops from Cambodia under UN supervision and call for the dispatch of UN forces to organize and supervise a free, democratic, and fair election in Cambodia.

The Cambodian national resistance forces and the Cambodian National Government have repeatedly announced their full support for all UN documents, particularly the framework document dated 28 August 1990 and the draft agreement dated 26 November 1990.

All the Cambodian national resistance forces want is for Vietnam to withdraw all its aggressor forces from Cambodia to allow the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny through a free, democratic, and fair election under UN supervision. This is the lofty good will of the Cambodian national resistance forces. But Vietnam and its puppets have made successive efforts, openly and secretly, to destroy these documents. These obstinate efforts by the Vietnamese and their puppet-lackeys have barred implementation of a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. Thus, the world's people know well that the key to the Cambodian solution lies in the Vietnamese and their puppets.

If Vietnam really wants to end the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia as it has kept clamoring, Vietnam and its puppets must fully accept all these documents. But if they insist on opposing these important documents, it would mean that Vietnam does not want to end its war of aggression against Cambodia.

As mentioned in Qian Qichen's above statement, the international community must not and cannot allow Vietnam and its puppets to ruin the fruits of their efforts. This is because if Vietnam and its puppet-lackeys are allowed to make rain and storms at will, the Cambodian problem cannot be resolved, war in Cambodia will continue, and Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific Region will continue to experience instability, insecurity, and the absence of peace. Moreover, this will set a bad example for other regions in the world—that is, one country may arbitrarily commit aggression against another smaller country, oppose the international community and United Nations, and violate the norms governing international relations, thereby affecting the international security, peace, and order.

Therefore, it is necessary for the international community to prevent the fruits of their hard work made in the past 12 years from being ruined by Vietnam.

On their part, the Cambodian national resistance forces and the Cambodian people will also resolutely defend their tense and arduous struggle in which they have sacrificed their flesh and blood. All of us realize the need to fight on and continue pressuring Vietnam until it agrees to fully implement the five UNSC permanent members' documents and the draft agreement dated 26 November.

Editorial on Vietnam's Welcome of Cease-Fire

BK3004055991 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Station editorial: "The Cambodian people and national resistance forces hope that the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the United Nations will quickly convene the Jakarta meeting and force the Phnom Penh puppets to accept and fully implement the framework document and the Paris draft agreement so as to restore lasting peace to Cambodia"]

[Text] The spokesman of the three Cambodian national resistance forces on 26 April issued a statement voicing support for the appeal of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN secretary general calling for a temporary cease-fire in Cambodia prior to the meeting in Jakarta between the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] and PICC cochairmen.

This clearly shows the flexible stance and good will of the Cambodian national resistance forces to create an atmosphere of detente to quickly bring about a political settlement of the Cambodian problem, although there are now 50,000 Vietnamese aggressor troops stationed in Cambodia, another 20,000 Vietnamese intervention forces from Vietnam conducting war activities from behind, and 50,000 Vietnamese advisers and personnel of all categories controlling the puppet regime and occupying Cambodia.

On this occasion, the Cambodian people and Cambodian national resistance forces would like to call on the international community and particularly the United Nations and the PICC cochairmen to pressure the Hanoi authorities and the puppets that they installed in Phnom Penh to quickly accept the framework document dated 28 August 1990 and the draft agreement dated 26 November 1990 to restore a lasting peace in Cambodia and prevent Vietnam and its puppets from taking the opportunity of this temporary cease-fire to send fresh troops and additional war materiel from Vietnam to Cambodia for use in launching offensives and escalating the war in Cambodia.

Lately, particularly in the current 13th dry season, having received over 20,000 metric tons of heavy weapons and ammunition from the Soviet Union at the beginning of this year, Vietnam has sent thousands of troops to help those Vietnamese forces in Cambodia in launching many large-scale offensives on various battlefields in Cambodia, particularly Battambang-Route 10, Sisophon, and Thmar Puok battlefields, in an attempt to seize the liberated territories from the Cambodian national resistance forces. However, all these offensives have been basically routed by the Cambodian national resistance forces.

Vietnam has suffered heavy losses in terms of manpower, weapons, and ammunition. In such a situation, Vietnam needs a cease-fire to enable it to reorganize its forces and send fresh troops to Cambodia to conduct military initiatives, thus destroying the documents of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

While it is true that Vietnam has declared its welcome for the cease-fire appeal, Vietnam has never kept its promises. Recall the time when it waged war against the United States and the South Vietnamese authorities. Every year on New Year's Day, the Hanoi authorities always asked for a truce, but they themselves did not adhere to it. For example, during the 1968 cease-fire, Vietnam sent its troops to launch a large-scale offensive into Saigon. Later, Vietnam violated the cease-fire agreement that it solemnly signed in Paris with the United States in 1973. Recently, Vietnam and its puppets opposed the Jakarta joint statement and the Paris communique that they themselves solemnly signed before the international community.

These experiences and their actual deeds on the battlefield show that the Hanoi authorities and their puppet-lackeys do not really want a cease-fire as they claim. Therefore, the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces would like to call on the international community, particularly the PICC cochairmen and the United Nations, to quickly convene the meeting of the four Cambodian factions and the PICC cochairmen and force the Phnom Penh puppets, which represent the Hanoi authorities, to accept the framework document dated 28 August 1990 and the draft agreement dated 26 November 1990 in their entirety without any changes, so that lasting peace can be restored in Cambodia. We are convinced that only by taking this measure can we speed up the settlement of the Cambodian problem and prevent the Hanoi authorities and their puppet-lackeys from taking the opportunity of the truce to prepare their forces for escalating the war in Cambodia.

Indonesia

Minister Calls on Bank To Resume Aid to PRC

BK2604154891 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Indonesia called on the Asian Development Bank [ADB] to strengthen its financial position and resume its assistance program to the PRC, which has thus far been frozen for political and economic reasons at the recommendation of the United States. Speaking at the annual ADB conference in Vancouver yesterday, Finance Minister J.B. Sumarlin also expressed his hope that the ADB would increase its loan program. Sumarlin said he would welcome a resumption of assistance program to the PRC.

During the occasion, Minister Sumarlin also urged donor countries to remove their differences of opinion on the issues of the Asian Development Fund, soft-loan program, and ADB capital reserves.

Suharto Promises More Aid for Kurdish Refugees

BK2904104891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0957 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 29 (OANA/ANTARA)—President Suharto said Indonesia would send more aid to Kurdish refugees now seeking safety in Iran but this time the supply would be flown by commercial flights.

This was disclosed by Junior Minister/State Secretary Saadilah Murshid after he had reported the completed delivery of previous Indonesian aid for the Kurdish refugees to the Iranian Red Cross Society to President Suharto on Monday.

The last dispatch of aid was brought by the Secretary General of the Indonesian Red Cross Society (PMI), Sutikno Lukitodisastro, to Tehran last week on an Indonesian Air Force plane. The aid shipment consisted of medicines, medical equipment, food and blankets.

President Suharto has instructed the PMI to continue to receive contributions from the public. These assistances could be flown to Iran by commercial flights in the near future, Saadilah said.

For example, the batch of aid could be brought from Jakarta to Kuala Lumpur by Garuda Indonesia Airlines and from Kuala Lumpur to Tehran by Iran Airlines, he said.

Alatas Returns From European Visit 27 Apr

BK2804054291 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the Indonesian delegation's clarification concerning the possibility of a complete settlement of the Cambodian conflict and the development in East Timor have been positively accepted by four European nations, namely Norway, Sweden, Austria, and Italy. The foreign minister issued the statement in Jakarta yesterday after returning from his visit to Europe.

The minister also clarified to the leaders of the four European nations the development of the Cambodian problem and the actual situation in East Timor which has become a part of Indonesia.

According to Ali Alatas, his European counterparts indicated their satisfaction over the clarifications concerning the real situation in East Timor Province.

Reportage on Visit to Austria

WA2604191391

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas to Austria, including reports on his talks with Foreign Minister Alois Mock, please see the Austria section of the 25 April West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Press Criticism of Government, House 'Necessary'

BK3004015891 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Minister and State Secretary Murdiono believes the national press has not only reported positively about the government but has also been courageous enough to criticize them. Answering questions from newsmen after calling on President Suharto at the latter's residence on Cendana Street in Jakarta yesterday, Minister Murdiono said suggestions and criticisms from the national press are necessary to further improve the national development program. The newsmen posed the questions to Minister Murdiono following a statement by the Vice Chairman of the House of Representatives Syaiful Sulun that the national press only criticized the House of Representatives but has not been courageous enough to criticize the government.

Minister Murdiono said the government continues to regard the House of Representatives as a partner in efforts to achieve national aspirations through national development. According to Minister Murdiono, the working relationship between the House of Representatives and the government as well as the dynamism of the national press are already in line with the 1945 Constitution and the Pancasila democratic system.

Government Reforms Sought

BK2904051691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0444 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, April 29 (AFP)—House Deputy Speaker Retired Major General Syaiful Sulun has called on the government and the public to help place Indonesia's legislative body on a par with the executive, press reports said here Monday.

"Let us bring the legislative to the same level as the government. And this is the duty of all of us," the press quoted Mr. Sulun as having said in an interview with state television aired late Sunday.

Mr. Sulun, who comes from the powerful armed forces faction, said the government was too dominant.

"The government is too dominant. We should correct this," he said, adding the public could help by electing more able representatives to the house.

In five-yearly elections, the next one to be held in 1992, voters choose one among the three government-recognized political parties to represent them in the House of Representatives. Only 400 seats are contested and the elected representatives, designated by the parties, join 100 appointees from the military to form the house.

The 500 MPs [members of parliament] are then joined by 500 appointed representatives from the regions and public figures to form the People's Consultative Assembly which meets to elect the president and vice-president.

Mr. Sulun said in order to be effective, political parties should be independent and parliamentarians should be directly responsible to the house speaker and not to the faction which designated them.

"If the parties are subservient, afraid of the government and unindependent, they would not be able to control the government ... The government must help make the political parties independent," he said, adding that a strong House of Representatives would only be an advantage for the government.

Mr. Sulun said should the people loose confidence in the house, they would seek alternatives elsewhere and this would "not be good for the government."

He also called on the press to be more courageous in criticizing not only parliament but the government: "You (the press), launch all-out efforts to criticize the house, but do you have the courage to blast the government?"

Government Urges 'Honest,' 'Fair' Election

BK3004021091 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Ismail Hasan Metareum, general chairman of the United Development Party [PPP] Central Executive Council, has called on the government as a referee in the 1992 general election, to be honest and fair and to not hesitate to take action against anyone who sabotages the festival of democracy [popular term for an election in Indonesia] and its results. Speaking at a gathering in Jakarta yesterday, he said all Indonesians have high hopes in Home Affairs Minister Rudini's appeal to all government officials to be honest and fair to all Indonesians during the coming general election.

According to Ismail Hasan Metareum, the floating masses and a ban on setting up affiliated organizations in accordance with Law No. 3/1985 should be the basic guidelines for those in charge of holding the general election. The PPP general chairman also called on his members and supporters throughout Indonesia to help officials in charge of voter registration to enable all citizens to take part in the festival of democracy.

Communists Ruled Ineligible To Vote in 1992

BK3004072191 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Excerpt] A national team has studied a list of Indonesian citizens who are currently ineligible to vote and whose voting rights in the 1992 general election are being considered. The list has been approved by the chairman of the

Coordinating Board for Strengthening National Stability and ratified by the home affairs minister. This was stated by Home Affairs Minister Rudini as chairman of the Indonesian Election Committee at the meeting of the Indonesian Election Committee in Jakarta this morning. He said the list of former members of proscribed organizations who are eligible and ineligible to vote has in general been fixed .

[Begin Rudini recording] Those former members or sympathizers of the Indonesian Communist Party eligible to vote number 1,317,551 consisting of 359 persons from Category A, 28,644 from Category B, and 1,288,548 from Category C. A total of 36,345 persons are ineligible to vote. They consist of 179 persons from Category A, 3,179 from Category B, and 32,987 from Category C. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Laos

Reportage on Phoun Sipaseut Visit to Beijing

Meets Li Peng

BK2604131591 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Text] At the (?Xiguangge pavilion of Zhongnanhai House) yesterday afternoon, PRC Premier Li Peng received Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], who is currently on a visit to the PRC.

Li Peng said during his visit to Laos in December last year, he was accorded a warm and friendly welcome by government leaders and the people of Laos. He thanked the Lao leaders and people for the welcome. On this occasion, he said, he is especially delighted to have an opportunity to see Phoun Sipaseut again in Beijing. Li Peng extended a welcome to Phoun Sipaseut, during his visit to China, to attend the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Sino-Lao diplomatic relations. He added: The visit to China in 1989 by Kaysone Phomvihan and his own visit to Laos last year have resulted in restoring and developing the relations between the two countries. The talks between leaders of the two countries have brought about great results, and the agreements reached following the talks have now been successfully implemented.

Li Peng also greeted the success of the recent Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. He said: Under the leadership of the Lao party and Government, the Lao people will certainly be able to build Laos into a more beautiful country.

Touching on China's relations with foreign countries, Li Peng noted that based on the foreign policy of peace, (?independence, and sovereignty), China places importance on the principle of expanding relations with neighboring countries. He said: Based on the principle, we, as in the past, pledge to make efforts to expand the friendly relations and cooperation with Laos.

At the meeting, Phoun Sipaseut said: The Lao party and people have highly appraised Li Peng's visit to Laos last year and consider it to be of historic significance, for it has brought the relations between the two countries to a new stage of development.

On behalf of the party, government, and people of Laos, Phoun Sipaseut thanked the government and people of China for their support and assistance to Laos. Phoun Sipaseut arrived in Beijing on 24 April for a visit to China to attend the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Sino-Lao diplomatic relations at the invitation of Qian Qichen, state counselor and minister of foreign affairs of China.

Fetes Ties With Qian Qichen

BK2704124391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 25 April, Phongsavat Boupha, Lao ambassador to the PRC, hosted a reception to mark the 30th anniversary of Sino-Lao diplomatic relations. During the reception, attended by over 100 guests, Phoun Sipaseut and Qian Qichen took turns delivering speeches.

Phoun Sipaseut said: On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Lao-Sino diplomatic relations, I extend best wishes and friendship from the Lao people to all comrades and the entire Chinese people. Laos and China are neighboring countries bordered by the same mountain ranges and rivers. The Lao and Chinese people have maintained traditional friendship and helped each other since ancient times.

The Lao people are extremely pleased with the great and solid successes in implementing the economic reform and open-door policies accomplished by the Chinese people under CPC leadership. These successes served as an encouragement to our Lao people in carrying out the task of restructuring as laid down by the fifth party congress with the aim of securing further comprehensive social development. We are proud of the increase in the affection and mutual understanding between the Lao and Chinese peoples and the exchange of visits of delegations at different levels during the past few years, which have further promoted relations and cooperation between the two countries, an important factor for not only our Lao people's tasks of national defense and construction, but also for peace, friendship, and cooperation in this region.

On this brilliant and meaningful occasion, I, on behalf of the Lao Government and people, once again express sincere thanks and deep gratitude to the Chinese Government and people for the constant and valuable material and moral assistance given to our revolution.

In his speech, Qian Qichen said: China and Laos are close neighbors bordered by the same mountains and rivers. The traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries [words indistinct] in the struggle against external aggression and national liberation as well as in national construction. The Chinese and Lao peoples sympathize and help each other while maintaining their close relations. The official friendship visit to the PRC by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan in October 1989 has normalized the relations between the Chinese and Lao parties and states. The official friendship visit to Laos of Premier Li Peng in December 1990 has also further enhanced friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

The cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, cultural, sports, and other areas has yielded satisfactory results. The visit to China by Comrade Phoun Siapseut and his participation in the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Sino-Lao diplomatic relations will revitalize, in the long run, the good relations between the two countries. As we are joyously celebrating this occasion, the lesson we have jointly learned is that the two countries, close neighbors bordered by the same mountain ranges and rivers, [words indistinct] I firmly believe that the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries will be further improved and strengthened on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

Interview With Beijing Radio

BK2804111391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] During an interview given to Beijing Radio on the morning of 26 April, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, said:

First of all, I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to convey warm respect, fraternal effection, and friendship from the Lao people to the people in Beijing and the entire Chinese population. I feel extremely honored and proud of this visit to the PRC at the invitation of Comrade Qian Qichen, member of the State Affairs Commission and PRC foreign affairs minister. In fact, I visited China on several occasions during our national liberation struggle and after the liberation of our country. The warm reception accorded to me during each visit by my Chinese comrades reflected the affection and friendship the Chinese party, Government, and people have reserved for our Lao people. During this short visit, I am very pleased to witness the historic successes accomplished by the fraternal Chinese people under the CPC leadership in implementing economic reform and open-door policies. These have turned the formerly backward China into a strong and prosperous nation as the fraternal Chinese people's material and cultural livelihood is being continuously upgraded amid the technical, scientific, agricultural, and industrial advancement, thus giving a new face with a brighter future to the rural areas and cities. Meanwhile, the prestige of the PRC in the international arena has become more prominent. All of these successes have been major encouragements for our Lao people in carrying on the task of restructuring on the basis of the resolutions of the fourth and fifth congresses of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party with the aim of developing and promoting the popular democratic system so as to turn the LPDR into a peaceful, independent, unified, and prosperous country. Moreover, it is a major contribution to the tasks of securing peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress in the region and the world.

This time, I am paying a visit to China during the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Laos and China, which is an important milestone in the history of relations between the two countries. In addition to participating in the celebration of the anniversary, I was given the honor to pay a courtesy call on PRC Premier Li Peng and held talks with Comrade Qian Qichen, member of the State Affairs Commission and foreign affairs minister, on the strengthening of friendly relations, cooperation, and international problems of common interest in an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding.

Asked about his opinion on the future trend of Sino-Lao relations and cooperation, Phoun Sipaseut noted: In fact, our two countries have maintained good relations and cooperation since ancient times. However, the renowned friendship visit to the PRC of Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, in October 1989 and the visit to the LPDR in December 1990 of Comrade PRC Premier Li Peng even further strengthened traditional relations and cooperation between our two countries. I firmly believe that the relations and cooperation in different fields between the two countries will have a brighter future, espcially in the economic, trade, educational, cultural, technical, scientific, communications, and transport sectors, which will be expanded at a high rate in response to the aspiration of the peoples in our two countries and general trends. In conclusion, on behalf of the Lao Government and multiethnic people, I express our profound gratitude to the Chinese party, Government, and people for the reception accorded my delegation during this visit and support and assistance granted to our Lao people's revolutionary task. I wish the fraternal Chinese people under the leadership of the CPC successes in implementing the Eighth Five-Year Plan and the 10-Year Socioeconomic Development Plan. May the Lao-Sino friendship last forever.

It was also reported that on the same day, Phoun Sipaseut and his delegation left Beijing for a visit to Shanghai.

Returns Home 29 Apr

BK3004092891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Foreign Affairs Ministry led by Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, returned to Vientiane after ending a seven-day visit to the PRC at the invitation of PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

During the visit to the PRC, Phoun Sipaseut and his party paid a courtesy call on PRC Premier Li Peng and held talks with PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to discuss the strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation and other international issues of mutual interest. The two sides were satisfied to see that friendly relations and cooperation in various fields between the two countries have been developed. Phoun Sipaseut and his entourage also attended the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Lao-Chinese diplomatic relations held in Beijing before departing for Shanghai and Kumming Province to visit some cultural and economic foundations there.

On hand at Wattai Airport to welcome Phoun Sipaseut and his party were Khamtai Siphandon, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and national defense minister, ministers, deputy ministers, and a number of cadres concerned.

(Sai Boun-sou), PRC charge d'affaires in Laos, and a number of staff members of the PRC Embassy were also at the airport to welcome the delegation.

Ministry Hosts Reception Marking PRC Ties

BK2704075591 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] In his speech delivered during the reception marking the 30th anniversary of Lao-Sino diplomatic relations organized by the Foreign Ministry on the evening of 25 April, Deputy Foreign Minister Thongloun Sisoulit said: During the past 30 years, the two countries have exerted efforts to develop and maintain friendly and good-neighborly relations—traditional relations between Laos and China. In particular, following the friendship visit to the PRC in October 1989 of Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the friendship visit to the LPDR of Premier Li Peng in December 1990, the traditional friendly relations between the two countries have been further strengthened. He noted that the friendly relations and friendship between the two countries are the major contribution to the defense of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in the region and world.

In his speech, Liang Feng, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, said: China and Laos are close neighboring countries. The peoples of the two countries have coexisted with friendship and affection since ancient times. He stressed: During the past 30 years following the establishment of diplomatic relations, the Sino-Lao ties have expanded satisfactorily [words indistinct] by the two countries and peoples on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

Both Thoungloun Sisoulit and Liang Feng firmly believe that on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence and mutual interest, friendship [words indistinct] the peoples of the two countries will be further expanded and strengthened.

Phoumi Vongvichit Receives Outgoing PRC Envoy

BK2804081891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] At the presidential office this morning, Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, received a farewell courtesy call from Liang Feng, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, who has completed his over three-year diplomatic mission in the country.

During the cordial meeting, Phoumi Vongvichit praised Liang Feng's significant contribution to the strengthening of relations and cooperation between Laos and China and wished him success in his new assignment.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Cambodia Cease-Fire

BK3004143991 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; date not given]

[Text] The cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the UN secretary general recently called for a temporary cease-fire in Cambodia beginning 1 April.

The Lao Government and people sincerely acclaim the endeavors and initiatives of the cochairmen and UN secretary for their endeavors and initiatives to expeditiously restore peace in Cambodia to create conditions for the Cambodian people to construct and develop their country. As a neighboring country sharing the same fate throughout the history of the two countries, the Lao Government and people always want Cambodia to be a peaceful, independent, stable, neutral, and prosperous country so that we can jointly contribute to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation. For this reason, the Lao Government and people have consistently exerted efforts to contribute to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of the legitimate right to self-determination of the Cambodian people, and on 7 March, issued a statement calling on all countries to take concrete action to achieve the aforementioned objective and be ready to sign any agreement to ban the transport of weapons through their territories into Cambodia and halt external military assistance to all Cambodian factions.

The Lao Government believes that the cease-fire will constitute an important contribution to the deterence of civil war in Cambodia and to efforts to find a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem in response to the strong aspiration of the Cambodian people. The Lao Government and people always fully support the goodwill, gentle, and flexible principle and attitude of the State of Cambodia as manifested in its statement dated 24 April 1991 on the temporary cease-fire call by the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the UN secretary general.

Reportage on Visit by Cambodia's Chea Sim

Arrives; Met by Leaders

BK2904134891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] At the invitation of Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC] and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a high-level delegation of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, led by Comrade Chea Sim, Political Bureau member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for Construction and Defense, arrived in Vientiane this morning by special plane for an official friendship visit to the LPDR.

At Wattai Airport in Vientiane, a grand ceremony was held to welcome Comrade Chea Sim and his entourage. Among those present were Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC and chairman of the SPA; Comrade Oudom Khatthi-gna, Political Bureau member and head of the Organizational Board of the LPRP CC; Comrade Thongsing Thammavong, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC and vice chairman of the SPA; members and alternate members of the LPRP CC; ministers and deputy ministers; members of the SPA Standing Committee and SPA members; and a number of high-ranking cadres attached to the LPRP CC and the Vientiane Municipality.

Comrade Long Kem, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the State of Cambodia to Laos, was also at the airport to welcome the delegation.

During their four-day stay in Laos, Comrade Chea Sim and his party are scheduled to pay a courtesy call on Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPRP CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR; meet with Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan and the Lao delegation; pay a courtesy call on Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president; and meet with representatives of the Laos-Cambodia Friendship Association. The delegation will visit Luang Prabang Province and some economic production foundations in Vientiane Municipality.

Talks With Nouhak Phoumsavan

BK3004060991 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 29 April at the Government Guest House at Na Hai Diau in Vientiane capital, the delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] led by Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC] and chairman of the SPA, held talks with the delegation of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia led by Comrade Chea Sim, Political Bureau member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [KPRP CC] and chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] National Council.

Also attending the meeting, on the Lao side, were Comrade Thongsing Thammavong, LPRP CC Political Bureau member, and other members of the Lao delegation; and, on the Cambodian side, Mat Ly, KPRP CC Political Bureau member, vice chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, and member of the KUFNCD National Council; and other members of the Cambodian delegation.

During the meeting, Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, head of the Lao delegation, highly valued the visit to the LPDR by the delegation of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia led by Comrade Chea Sim. He also informed the Cambodian delegates of the success of the Fifth LPRP Congress, which ended in late March.

After the meeting, Comrade Chaleun Yiapaoheu, SPA Standing Committee member, informed the National Radio Station correspondent of the success of the meeting.

Further on Nouhak Phoumsavan Meeting

BK3004124191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Report by Chaleun Yiapao-heu, Standing Committee member of the Supreme People's Assembly]

[Text] Today, the high-level delegation of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia led by Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly and chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for Construction and Defense [KUFCD] National Council; and the delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] led by Nouhak Phoumsavan met and held talks in Vientiane.

At the meeting, Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan highly valued and expressed pleasure with the visit to the LPDR by Comrade Chairman Chea Sim and his delegation. At the same time, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim, speaking on behalf of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, informed Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan of the situation in the State of Cambodia. First of all, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim highly assessed the success of the fifth congress of our party. He regarded it as a historical turning point in the new development of the Lao revolution. The most important thing is that the congress served to further enhance democracy and continue the implementation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party's [LPRP] policy of restructuring. As a result, the role and influence of our party, state, and people have been prominently raised both at home and abroad. Comrade Chea Sim also informed Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan of the situation in Cambodia. He said that during the period between late 1990 and early 1991, even though the situation remained complex and confusing due to the subversive activities carried out by hostile and enemy forces and the remnants of the old regime as well as severe drought, with the correct, clear-sighted, and talented line laid down by the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], the fraternal Cambodian people have forged ahead to win numerous achievements, thus securely defending the fruits of the Cambodian revolution and the independence and sovereignty of the State of Cambodia. Moreover, the Cambodian people have also managed to overcome numerous difficulties and to successfully carry out economic, cultural, and social development. In the agricultural field, they have managed to harvest between 1.4 and 1.5 metric tons of paddy per hectare. On average, they have produced some 200 kilos of paddy per citizen for consumption. This is a remarkable success. Nonetheless, Chairman Chea Sim stressed that such production success still failed to meet the needs of the Cambodian people. But he affirmed that it was still a signifcant success anyway. In addition, activities in the business and industrial sectors have made good headway.

With regard to efforts to resolve the Cambodian problem, at present, the Cambodian party, Government, and people have continued to pursue the policy of broadening cooperation and friendship relations with every country and have persisted in trying to resolve this problem through political means on the basis that the Cambodian people are allowed to resolve the Cambodian problem by themselves. In connection with this, Chairman Chea Sim hailed the initiative and proposal advanced by the United Nations—the UN secretary general in particular—to all the Cambodian factions to hold a ceasefire beginning 1 May. He reiterated that the State of Cambodia is still making efforts in and is pleased to continue settling the Cambodian problem through political means.

In addition, Chairman Chea Sim also informed Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan of the activities of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia. For example, the assembly, which has convened on two occasions, has endeavored to enact the Criminal and Civil Codes as well as a number of business-related acts. As a result, the management of state and society has been effectively executed through legal procedures. He also informed Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan of the preparations being made in Cambodia to hold the general elections to the Third National Assembly in the future. At the end, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim once again hailed the good relations between the two national assemblies in particular, and between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Cambodia in general. He pledged once again to further strengthen the special relations of friendship and comprehensive cooperation between Cambiodia and Laos as well as to make the friendship and allround cooperation between Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam bear more fruit. The State of Cambodia stands ready to establish relations with all countries, especially those countries in this region. With regard to this, Chairman Chea Sim reiterated that the State of Cambodia is pleased to restore normal and good relations with the PRC and other countries.

In conclusion, Chairman Chea Sim extended an invitation to Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan and the SPA delegation to pay a visit to the State of Cambodia at an appropriate time. He emphatically pledged to continue strengthening the relations between the two national assemblies.

On his part, Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed satisfaction with the praise heaped on the Lao party, Government, and people by the Cambodian party, state, and people as conveyed by Chairman Chea Sim. He also informed Chairman Chea Sim of some prominent features of the current situation in Laos. One of the most outstanding events, he told Chairman Chea Sim, was the success of the Fifth LPRP Congress, saying that the congress marked a significant development in the political life of the Lao party, Army, and people, especially in the enhancement of democracy. He said that since the beginning of the preparations to convene the congress, democracy has been consistently promoted and enhanced. The fifth party congress endorsed the political report presented by Comrade Party Chairman Kaysone Phomvihan and agreed to approve the amended party regulation, which was altered to conform to the current reality. The congress also elected the fifth party Central Committee with 55 full members and four alternate members. A new feature in the new party Central Committee is youthfulness and continuity when many of its new members are young and seem to possess better capabilities. This feature has served to further raise the influence of our party. Worthy of note is that the new party Central Committee subsequently convened its first plenary session to elect 11 comrades as members to the Political Bureau. It also elected respected and beloved Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan as chairman of the party Central Committee and created an advisory committee to the government by appointing former senior Political Bureau members who have committed virtuous deeds toward the party and the revolution as advisors to the party and state.

In conclusion, Nouhak Phoumsavan stressed that the success of the congress made the entire Lao people very happy. At present, the entire Lao party, state, and people are joyously translating the success of the congress into reality. The realization of the outcome of this congress is totally different from those in the past, though, for each portion of the content of the political report adopted at this congress must be closely linked to the objective of each particular task and service. This means that the party's policy must be closely linked to actual deeds. This is a new method of work.

In addition, Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan also explained the activities of the SPA to Chairman Chea Sim. For example, the SPA still continues to consolidate and modify the draft constitution to make it conform to the direction followed by the fifth party congress:

1. The SPA must continue modifying the parliamentary system into a single system.

2. The roles and responsibilties of the legislative, administrative, and judicial organizations must be clearly defined.

3. The content of the draft constitution in the economic sector must be amended to conform to the new economic policy and new management mechanisms aimed at transforming the natural economy into the goods economy to be under the new management mechanisms.

Cambodian Trade Union Group Arrives for Visit

BK2904095091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The delegation of the Trade Unions Federation Central Committee [TUF CC] of the State of Cambodia, led by Comrade Mrs. Men Sam-an, Political Bureau member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the TUF CC of the State of Cambodia, arrived in Vientiane this morning to pay an official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] at the invitation of the Lao Trade Unions Federation Central Committee [LTUF CC].

Welcoming the delegation at Wattai Airport were Comrade Bounthan Souvannasouk, chairman of the LTUF CC; standing members and members of the LTUF CC; and a number of trade union members attached to various offices, organizations, and factories. Comrade (Chiang Sakol), second secretary of the Embassy of the State of Cambodia, was also on hand at the airport to welcome the delegation.

During its four-day visit to Laos, the TUF CC delegation will pay a courtesy call on Comrade Oudom Khatthi-gna, Political Bureau member and chairman of the Organizational Board of the LPRP CC; hold a meeting with the LTUF CC chairman; and visit some production foundations in Vientiane Municipality and Vientiane Province.

DPRK's Yi Chong-ok To Visit 2-7 May

BK3004065091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] At the invitation of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Comrade Yi Chong-ok, vice president of the DPRK, will pay an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 2 to 7 May 1991.

Khamtai Siphandon on Military Concepts

BK2504144591 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Mar 91 pp 73-77

[Article by General Khamtai Siphandon, Lao Defense Minister, to mark Lao People's Revolutionary Party, LPRP, Central Committee General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan's 70th birthday—carried in the 19-21 December 1990 issues of the Lao Daily PASASON and translated by Tran Cong for the Vietnamese army journal TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN under the headline: "Some Fundamental Military Concepts of the LPRP"]

[Text] The revolutionary cause of the Lao people of various ethnic groups is a great and glorious but difficult task.

Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, who is the supreme leader of both the party and government, used to be commander in chief of the Lao People's Army [LPA]. Together with the entire party, people, and Army, he has incessantly advanced the Lao people's revolutionary cause by transforming the country from a colonial and semi-feudalist state into the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] with independence, democracy, unification, and prosperity.

From early on, on behalf of the party, he announced the official establishment of the Free Lao Army (Lao Itsala) with himself as commander. Throughout the past wars against colonialists and neocolonialists as well as during the present national defense and national construction, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan has closely and attentively guided and trained the LPA. He has contributed all his physical energy, wisdom, and knowledge to commanding and leading the LPA, thus enabling it to fulfill all the tasks the country and people has entrusted it.

On the 60th birthday of beloved and respected Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan, we would like to present some fundamental military concepts of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party which were personally, together with the party, researched and correctly outlined by the comrade for application in the past revolution and at present. At the same time, we would like to present some of his and the party's views in providing close, resolute, direct, and allround leadership and guidance to the process of growth and development and the victorious struggle of the LPA for reviewing and implementing our country's revolution in the new stage.

1. Combine armed struggle with the people's political struggle.

The experience from the Laos revolution has testified that there is only one correct way in which one can win independence and freedom for the country, that is the path of revolutionary violence. The strength of the revolutionary violence is the strength of the violence of the masses, which has been displayed in two forms—the political struggle and the armed struggle. These two forms of struggles must be combined harmoniously, skillfully, flexibly, resourcefully and resolutely.

In his work entitled "Some Fundamental Experience and Some Problems on the New Direction of the Lao Revolution," Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan notes: Along with building the political strength of the masses, our party regards the building of the armed forces right from the outset as the most important task. This has been carried out throughout our revolutionary struggle. In consolidating the people's political force, the Lao people's armed forces have also matured and developed among the masses and have grown strong, quantitatively and qualitatively. They began with building the people's armed forces in each locality, and proceeded from gradually organizing the regular armed forces and setting up mobile regular units on each battlefront to founding mobile forces for operating on various strategic terrains throughout the country. In their growth, the regular armed forces have become a powerful entity capable of helping develop the political force of the masses. The better the harmonious coordination between the political and the military forces, the stronger and more developed these forces became. Therefore, our people's armed forces must always bear the character of both the combat and the political forces of the party. It is the force that genuinely originates from the people.

2. Our party's art of strategic and tactical leadership is using a small nation to fighting a bigger aggressor.

This guiding art is the science of knowing how to develop the integrated strength of the nation and combine it with the combative alliance of the three Indochinese countries as well as with the epochal strength. We must harmoniously coordinate our struggles in the political, military, diplomatic, and legal domains, while dividing and isolating the aggressors and their lackeys so that we can be successively victorious in gaining total victory for the country.

At a grand rally marking the 30th founding anniversary of the party, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan noted: In the past and present revolutionary struggle, our party's strategic and tactical leadership has been correct. While fighting colonialism, both old and new, and the many reactionary and aggressor forces, our people have always respected and maintained friendly relations with the peoples in the countries concerned. Our party has always guided and built the political and armed forces and combined it with the political and diplomatic struggles. We have also sought support from other peoples throughout the world to isolate our enemy.

Experience has shown that we know how to manage our military, political and diplomatic activities flexibly, to attack and push the enemy back gradually, to win partial victories, to create opportunities and exploit them, and to mobilize our integrated strength to score decisive victories. For instance, we simultaneously seized power throughout the country in May [as published] 1975 and we successfully defended the western border of our motherland. These victories were a testimony to the party's clearsightedness and creativity in coping with bigger aggressor forces. This is our guiding thought and our party's leadership style in defending the country and building the present new regime.

3. The military line of our party is a comprehensive line of all-people national defense and security alliance.

On the basis of developing patriotism, self-control, and self-reliance, we should develop the alliance among the three Indochinese countries and international cooperation in order to make more friends and fewer enemies and to ensure the defense of the country, the new regime, and the peaceful labor of our people.

Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan has always advised: "National defense and security should be closely linked with economic, political, and diplomatic activities. All branches of the party, state, and armed forces should help the grassroots build a steadfast national defense and security system. They should also help build the local armed forces and the grass-roots security network to create an on-site integrated strength—an inexhaustible revolutionary potential."

The comrade general secretary has always concerned himself with educating the entire party, people, and Army so they can struggle against unjustifiable democratic concepts, pluralism, and multipartyism. He pointed out: As far as our country is concerned, to protect our revolutionary gains, we have no alternative but to pursue Marxism-Leninism and socialism under the LPRP leadership. With the steady and gradual implementation of the party's renovative policy and the broadening of our cooperation with many countries on the principle of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, equality, and interests, we should maintain the steadfastness of the internal ranks of the revolutionary forces.

4. We should build a good Lao People's Army capable of performing its duty under all circumstances and also build a popular armed movement.

5. During the new revolutionary stage, comrade General Secterary Kaysone Phomvihan said: "National defense and security will continue to be the tasks of utmost importance." Therefore, we should muster the integrated strength of the entire people to consolidate national defense and security at the grassroots, to build an impregnable local national defense and security system, to consolidate and constantly improve this system, to combine economic construction with the maintenance of national defense and security, and to strengthen our country's potential in all aspects. We should resolutely smash all the enemy's sabotage schemes to firmly protect our people's peaceful labor for national construction and safeguard our independence, sovereignty, and new regime. At the same time, we should strengthen special solidarity with the armed forces and fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia, thus contributing to maintaining peace and stability in this region and the world over.

As a backbone of our people in national defense and security, the armed forces should be built in such a way as to ensure that they are comprehensively steadfast and capable of meeting necessary requirements arising from the situation and to suit the role and tasks dictated by the country's national defense and security during the new revolutionary stage.

In building the armed forces, the comrade general secretary urged: "We should firmly grasp the motto of regarding quality as the mainstay and ensuring that the military and security forces should always be loyal to the party and fatherland. The army and the public security force are the sharp tools of the LPRP, and the democratic people's administration should constantly develop their fine traditions."

From these fundamental concepts, under the direct leadership of the LPRP headed by the comrade general secretary, the Lao people's armed forces should always firmly grasp the principle of unit building, regard ideological and political qualities as the basis, view political qualities as the mainstay, and satisfactorily observe the four types of relations—namely Army-people relations, relations of internal solidarity, relations of solidarity among the Lao people of various ethnic groups, and relations of international solidarity. The Lao people's armed forces should know how to distinguish friends from foes and resolutely make sacrifices. They should have the audacity to fight and win and should fulfill all the duties entrusted to them by the party, state, and people.

The comrade general secretary used to emphatically call for correctly dealing with the relations between quantity and quality, between the observance of discipline and the implementation of policies, and between human factors and weaponry.

We should uphold our patriotism if we are to increase our combat strength and overcome all difficulties. We should always remember that our Army is of the people, from the people, and for the people. Therefore, the Army should always attach itself closely to the people of various ethnic groups, for this is a source of strength for it.

The comrade general secretary is especially concerned about the party's leadership role in consolidating national defense and security. He once put it this way: The party organizations at various levels should pay attention to consolidating and building comprehensively steadfast armed forces. They should intensify its efforts to educate, manage, and feed the troops and attach importance to implementation of the military rear policy to enable the Army and security force to fulfill all their assigned missions. They should continue to perfect the party's mechanism of leadership over the armed forces. At the same time, attention should be paid to consolidating the system of one-man leadership and constantly developing the role of various political organs and grass-roots party organizations in the armed forces.

The past 41 years was a period of growth and victorious struggle for the Lao People's Army. The LPA has won brilliant victories in its struggle for national independence and freedom. The Lao people's long-cherished desire to become real masters of their country is a dream comes true.

The Lao people's armed forces are very proud of their worthy contribution to the common victories. They really deserve the Party Central Committee's praise: The Lao people's armed forces are a strike force in the struggle, and possess a determination to fight and win over all enemies and to fulfill all assigned missions. They are indeed the solid pillars of the revolution, the sharp tools of the party, and the beloved children of the Lao people of various ethnic groups.

The more the Lao people's armed forces are proud of their past achievements and victories, the more they embellish the fine traditions of the nation and the Army. These traditions are the invaluable inheritance the LPA must safeguard and further promote.

To show the profound gratitude and most sincere congratulations of the Lao people's armed forces to Comrade Secretary General Kaysone Phomvihan, the LPA cadres and combatants will exert their efforts to preserve and develop the revolutionary character and fine traditions of the Army; actively undergo political, military, cultural, technical, and professional training; enhance their sense of revolutionary vigilance; attach themselves closely to the compatriots of various ethnic groups; preserve internal unity; uphold the spirit of international solidarity; firmly adhere to the party's lines and policies; practice democracy within their units; and strictly observe military discipline and regulations.

Officers should stay close to, behave properly, and maintain friendly relations with their men. They should cultivate for themselves a scientific, practical, faithful, urgent, and scrupulous working attitude. They should set good examples for their subordinates to follow; vigorously shift their efforts toward the grassroots in building comprehensively steadfast units; step up the technical and tactical training movement so as to ensure combat readiness; strive to increase self-sufficiency production; practice austerity; improve the living conditions of soldiers step-by-step; and actively contribute to constantly strengthening the country's potentials in all aspects.

The entire Lao people's armed forces should always be loyal to the party and country; wholeheartedly serve the people; closely unite around the party Central Committee; resolutely follow the revolutionary path already chosen by the party; implement the renovation policy already introduced by the party; be ready to dedicate themselves to the cause of maintaining national defense, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and protect the party and the new regime as well as the revolutionary gains so they can deserve the trust from the party and state, the love from the people, and the solicitous care for guidance from our beloved and respected Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan.

Trade Delegation Departs for Talks in Bangkok

BK3004050291 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 28 April, the Lao economic delegation, led by the Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Phao Bounnaphon, left for Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, for economic and trade negotiations on the basis of the 1986 Joint Communique. This is the first round of negotiations and is aimed at strengthening bilateral relations.

Vongvichit Receives Outgoing German Ambassador

BK2704102491 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Yesterday morning at the Presidential Office in Vientiane, acting President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Phoumi Vongvichit received a courtesy farewell call from Helmut Arndt, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Laos, who has just completed his three-year diplomatic tour of duty.

The guest and the host had a cordial talk. On this occasion, Phoumi Vongvichit hailed Helmit Arndt for his contribution to promoting and expanding the friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and Germany. He also wished the ambassador success in performing his new duties.

Nouhak Phoumsavan Receives Envoy

BK2804102091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] On the evening of 26 April, Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a farewell courtesy call from Helmut Arndt, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Laos, on the occasion of the completion of his over 3-year diplomatic mission in the LPDR.

Philippines

NPA To Intensify Anti-U.S. Bases Struggle

HK3004104091 Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 17 Apr 91 pp 21, 22

["Excerpts" of interview with Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, spokesman of the New People's Army's Melito Glor Command, by unidentified NATIONAL MIDWEEK reporters in Southern Tagalog Province's Siera Madre Mountains on 29 March—in Tagalog; first five paragraphs are editor's note]

[Text] *It was eight o'clock on the morning of 28 March when some mediamen set out for Sierra Madre to cover the 22nd anniversary of the New People's Army. The trip by bus took almost five hours; the trip by boat was more than one hour, and the walk going up the high and vast Sierra Madre mountains lasted three hours. We reached Sierra Madre at six o'clock in the evening. An NPA [New People's Army] company welcomed and shook hands with us as they introduced themselves by their aliases. The last to introduce himself was Comrade Roger.*

On the morning of March 29, the mountains in the west glowed as the sun rose. In a small hut, the NATIONAL MIDWEEK interviewed Comrade Roger, or Gregorio Rosal, spokesman of the NPA Melito Glor Command, on various issues.

It was two o'clock in the afternoon when the mediamen together with some NPA members aboard a big boat went to a place where the anniversary celebration was to take place.

Many farmers and fishermen have been regularly following the NPA anniversary. There, they discussed the problems of the Filipino people and rendered a cultural presentation. One of the speakers was Comrade Roger.

The mediamen set to go back to Manila in the morning of March 30. The following are excerpts of our interview with Comrade Roger.

[MIDWEEK] **What can you say about a statement by the Armed Forces of the Philippines claiming that the New People's Army will be totally crushed in the year 1992?**

[Rosal] The total war policy launched by the Aquino government particularly here in Southern Tagalog is a failure. They cannot uproot the NPA from its base. The intensified militarization which incurred civilian casualties, the anti-communist rallies, the recruitment and deployment of Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units [CAFGU], and the launching of seminars will not topple the armed unit. It is not true that the number of NPA-controlled areas has decreased. The military bases its claim on those areas where their special teams have operated. Not all of the areas where their special teams conducted operations are already theirs. The NPA Army still swims and recruits here. Ramos' net-trap does not have a big effect. Yes, they may have captured a number of cadres, but it doesn't mean that the CPP-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front]-NPA have been crippled and wiped out. Our work continues because we have never relied upon the leadership alone. We have a base and its support will continue for as long as this rotten societal system exists. The military is nothing. Which is why we enjoy a big edge over them.

[MIDWEEK] **What have you accomplished in 1990?**

[Rosal] We were able to launch, particularly in Southern Tagalog, four successful major offensives and several successful minor ones too. The Southern Tagalog [ST] held a military conference. Here we experienced an assimilated armed struggle. The big role the ST played in this was reported. Almost all of Southern Tagalog's town halls were raided. We had also destroyed tanks by using land mines. We also inflicted damage on several helicopters.

[MIDWEEK] **Do you have any plans to participate in the forthcoming 1992 elections?**

[Rosal] The People's Army is not participating and will not vote in the elections. At present, politicians don't only have "guns, goons and gold," they also have computers now. However, if the masses ask us who they can vote for, we will whisper names of those whom the army sees as supportive of the people. There is a need to scrutinize the people who will represent the nation. There are many politicians who have been posturing against the bases but now have downplayed it. They now use various terms to describe this such as "total phase out" of the U.S. bases; "gradual phase out", "phasedown" and other terms which is only equivalent to the retention of the bases.

[MIDWEEK] **What is the view of the NDF-CPP-NPA? Will Mrs. Aquino be able to resolve the worsening crisis currently experienced by the Philippino people?**

[Rosal] Since Mrs. Aquino was placed in power, all of these have remained unsolved, in fact, it became worse. The national democratic movement has already pointed out that the puppet Aquino government can no longer resolve the economic and the political crisis in the country. This is clearly manifested by the present events.

[MIDWEEK] **If the military bases stay beyond 1992, what is your position?**

[Rosal] The anti-military bases struggle which has been advanced by the revolutionary organizations of the masses has gone a long way. Even the United States Government itself and the leading imperialist puppets in our country are seriously concerned about the fast spread of anti-bases and anti-imperialist sentiment. And they have been exerting so much effort in finding deceitful ways to suppress and put an end to this. It is for certain that the U.S. military bases will stay beyond 1991. In this connection, the People's Army will intensify its attacks on U.S. military installations and personnel and on its civilians who are actively involved in the anti-insurgency campaign. In Southern Tagalog, where there are no U.S. military installations, the People's Army will help make the nation aware of the evils they cause, and punish those who will violently suppress the people's movement against the retention of the military bases.

[MIDWEEK] **What can you say about Senator Bobby Tanada's call to declare the Bondoc Peninsula and other parts of the Philippines as Peace Zones?**

[Rosal] They call for a cease-fire, but the military continues to attack. There has been no talks held between the representatives of the NDF and the government. If there was ever any talk, it was just among the government representatives. They are only using this issue of a cease-fire for their political interests because they are not really sincere in their appeal. What needs to be discussed is the root cause of this armed struggle. The government should be composed of genuine people representing the majority. Mrs. Cory's government only represents a small portion of the ruling majority.

Opposition Urges Manglapus To Resign Over Bases

HK2904144491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Statement by Nathaniel Santiago, deputy secretary general of the New Nationalist Alliance; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] I called to announce our position and plans regarding the ongoing negotiations. The New Nationalist Alliance is vehemently opposed to any negotiation because it is now clear, and it has been announced, that a treaty for retention will be the core of discussion here. What is more painful is that this government, through Manglapus, has not won any agenda for the country and only the Americans' agenda prevailed.

So from our point of view, it is time; and I think there is no more reason for Secretary Manglapus to remain in his post. We appeal to Manglapus to resign from his post, not only as panelist but also as secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs because, as it came out, he seems to have failed to uphold the Filipino people's interests. Only the Americans' preferences prevailed in all of his meetings with them.

Also, we call on the Filipino people not to lose hope. If Manglapus has wasted the chance to remove these military bases, let us be the ones to hold on to our sovereignty. On 1 and 4 May, let us get together and declare in unison that we are opposed to the new treaty they are making and that we would now like the military bases to be dismantled to pave the way for these military bases to be used for peaceful and economic purposes.

Manglapus: U.S. Position on Bases Unchanged

HK3004061991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] The sixth series of talks which is expected to be the last negotiation between the Philippines and the United States regarding the latter's bases in the country, is now being held. Over 100 Manila policemen were deployed to secure the United States Embassy and the Central Bank building, the venue of the bases talks. Both sides will try to resolve two important issues: the compensation issue and the length of stay for the U.S. facilities in the country.

U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage arrived in Manila yesterday. Before his arrival, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus received Armitage's letter which stressed the U.S. position on the bases' rent:

[Begin recording in English] [Manglapus] The letter did not give any reason for us to be more confident.

[Reporter] Why sir?

[Manglapus] Well, it merely restated what we know already to be the American position. And it did not, in our view, respond to our position. [end recording]

Venkataraman, Aquino Sign Atomic Energy Pact

BK2904094491 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The Philippines says the Kashmir issue is an internal matter of India and should be resolved on the basis of the Simla Agreement. This was conveyed by the Philippines President Mrs. Corazon Aquino to the visiting Indian president during their formal talks in Manila today. In the meeting which lasted about 20 minutes, both the leaders discussed bilateral, regional, and international issues. They reviewed the economic situation in the two countries adversely affected by the Gulf crisis and discussed ways to overcome the foreign exchange problem.

India and the Philippines today signed agreements on the peaceful use of atomic energy and agricultural cooperation. The two agreements were signed in Manila by the external affairs secretary and the leader of the Indian delegation, Mr. L.L. Mehrotra, and his counterpart in

Manila in the presence of the presidents, Mr Venkataraman and Mrs Corazon Aquino. The agreement on atomic energy covers nuclear research and its application for agriculture, medicine, and industry. The memorandum of understanding on agriculture will include rice production and research, multiple cropping, water management, and joint ventures.

Taiwan Threatens To Impose Economic Sanctions

HK3004055591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 30 Apr 91 pp 1, 3

[By staff member Manny Mogato]

[Text] Taiwan yesterday threatened to impose economic sanctions on the Philippines following the arrest and detention of nine Taiwanese fishermen caught fishing within Philippine waters two weeks ago.

Philippine naval officials said the fishermen, riding in three boats, were caught within the country's 12-nautical mile territory last April 14.

The officials sent seven of the nine home Sunday after the latter had served a 14-day prison term and paid a P1,000 [Philippine pesos] fine. One was reported sick and confined in a local hospital, while the other was still awaiting his lawyers from Taiwan.

The officials also allowed two of the three boats to be returned home.

Taiwanese officials had threatened to suspend trade with the Philippines if the boats were not promptly released.

They said the Philippine government had agreed to arrange a meeting with them over their claim that Philippine territorial waters overlap with those of Taiwan, which measures 200 nautical miles from its coast.

The BRP Iloilo, a Philippine warship, caught the fishermen hauling fish around four naturical miles from Y'ami, the country's northernmost island, and 78 nautical miles from the southernmost up of Taiwan.

The warship fired on the fishing vessels, chased and intercepted them one after the other northwest of Y'ami.

Taiwan said their fishermen were within their 200-mile territory, which overlaps with the Philippine boundary at the 50-mile Bashi Channel.

They also said the incident was the latest among 10 claims of illegal fishing and compensation demands made by the Philippines on Taiwan last year.

Philippine Navy Commander Reuben Vista said the BRP Iloilo had the right to arrest the fishermen since the latter wer within the 12-mile territorial limit, the 24-mile contiguous zone limit and the 200-mile exclusive economic zone limit.

"They (Taiwan) are lucky. Hundreds of Taiwanese fishing boats enter Philippine territorial and economic zones, but we could not chase them all because of our limited capabilities," Vista said. He noted the navy's lack of faster ships needed to protect Philippine marine resources and territorial boundaries from illegal fishing and poaching.

"This is a simple problem of the lack of a strong navy and a determined policy to stop these things. Kaya tayong takutin nang kung anu-anong sanction dahil wala tayong malakas na navy diyan, [We could be threatened with whatever sanction because we don't have a strong navy there.]" he said.

But a defense official cited the absence of diplomatic ties as the main reason behind the border dispute between the two countries.

This, the official added, was worsened by Taiwan's nonmembership in the United Nations and, consequently, the Conference on the Law of the Sea, which barred simple negotiations between the two states.

The Philippine Navy says almost 80% of the poachers in Northern Luzon waters are Taiwanese fishing vessels, which continuously mock Philippine naval capabilities to protect the country's sea lanes.

Selection of Military Chief Abadia Criticized

Part 1

HK2904090391 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 27 Apr 91 pp 1, 2

["NEWSDAY Special" by special correspondent Cecilio T. Arillo, chairman of the Institute of Defense Studies]

[Text] President Aquino's controversial appointment of Major General Lisandro Abadia to chief of staff of the Armed Forces will set a dangerous precedent that may cause irreparable damage to the whole military organization.

Mrs Aquino arbitrary exercise of presidential prerogative also has far-reaching implications that may affect the legal, social and psychological make-up of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and its various institutions.

And if the controversial appointment is allowed to pass uncorrected, it may even threaten the survival of her own government. Mrs Aquino's latest statement that Abadia's appointment is a "personal presidential judgment" has only worsened the problem.

Why? Because it was obvious that the President was subjective rather than objective in choosing Abadia. A subjective criterion is usually applied to break a tie or assert presidential prerogative.

If you compare the qualifications of Abadia with those of the closest candidates like Vice Chief of Staff Major General Guillermo Flores, Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Alexander Aguirre, Navy Flag Officer in Command Rear Admiral Mariano Dumancas Jr. and Brigadier

General Arturo Enrile, the former pales in comparison with most of them, particularly in command and staff positions.

Flores was MP [Metropolitan Police] brigade deputy commander and chief of staff in February 1986; 1st brigade commander, 2nd division from March '86 to January '87; 3rd brigade commander, 5th division from February '87 to July '88; commanding general 7th Infantry Division from August '88 to July '89; Southern Command (Mindanao) chief from August '89 to March '90; Army Commanding General from March-December '90; and Vice Chief of Staff From January '91 to date.

Aguirre was PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary—Integrated National Police] operations chief in February '86; AFP operations chief from March to December '86; CAPCOM [Capital Regional Command]-MPF [Metropolitan Police Force] commander from January '87 to April '90; Task Force ASEAN Summit commanding general from September '87 to December '88; and Deputy Chief of Staff from April '90 to April 8, 1991.

Domancas was Naval Training Command chief in February '86; Naval Base Cavite commander from May '86 to October '87; again Naval Training Command chief from October '87 to March '88; chief Naval Staf from March '88 to March '90; and Flag Officer in Command from March '90 to date.

Enrile was chief of Army personnel in February '86, Army chief of operations from March '86 to October '87; Army chief of staff from October '87 to July '89; PMA [Philippine Military Academy] superintendent from August '89 to April '91 and Army commanding general from April '91 to date.

Abadia was chief of Army operations in February '86; PMA commandant of cadets from April '86 to January '88; 5th Infantry Division brigade commander for three months from January '88 to March '88; GHQ [General Headquarters] chief of operations from March '88 to January '91; Army commanding general for less than four months from January '91 to April '91; and chief of staff at present.

His command experience and other records in the last five years, showing a preponderance of staff positions and limited command experience, do not show any extraordinary achievements. What is extraordinary is his meteoric rise to the highest position in the AFP.

Neither does Enrile possess outstanding achievements to justify his appointment to position of Army commanding general. There are division and brigade commanders who could have filled the position of chief of staff and the highest ground force command without creating even just a whimper of protest in the whole chain of command.

A brief run-down of the background of the previous chiefs of staff covering a period of 29 years and five Presidents, from Mr Quirino to Mr Marcos, will show that General Aguirre and the Young Officers Union were indeed justified in their statements that President Aquino had unfairly and unjustly treated others in hastily promoting Abadia.

Part 2

HK2904092191 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 2

["NEWSDAY Special" by special correspondent Cecilio T. Arillo, chairman of the Institute of Defense Studies: "Abadia Selection Could Damage AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines); Conclusion"]

[Text] Here are their backgrounds:

—Lieutenant General Manufel F. Cabal (January '59 to December '61) was G2 81st Division, USAFFE [United States Army Forces, Far East] 1941; commander 2nd MP [Military Police] Battalion '45; commander Army 1st BCT [Batallion Combat Team] '50; Chief, Philippine Liaison Group, United Nations Command, Tokyo, '50; GHQ [General Headquarters] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and Camp commander '51; operations chief, GHQ, '53; 1st Military Area commanding general '54; PC [Philippine Constabulary] chief '55; Vice Chief of Staff from '59 to '61; and Chief of Staff from '61 to '62.

—Lieutenant General Pelagio A. Cruz (December '61 to August '62) was commandant of Army Command and General Staff School from '52 to '53; PAF [Philippine Air Force] commanding general from '53 to '56; chief, National Coordinating Intelligence Agency from '56 to '58; PC chief '58; Vice Chief of Staff from '59 to '61 and Chief of Staff from '61 to '62.

—General Alfredo M. Santos (September '62 to July '65) was commander 15th BCT in '47; Commander Panay Task Force 1951; Commandant, Command and General Staff College, 1954; Commanding General 2nd Military Area 1954-56; Chief, SEATO [South East Asia Treaty Organization] Military planning Office, Bangkok 1957-58; Commanding General, Philippine Army 1962; Chief of Staff, AFP 1962-1965.

—General Rigoberto Atienza (13 July '65 to 22 January '66) was Division Engineer and Commander, 41st Engineer Battalion, 41st Division, USAFFE, 28 August—20 December '41 Deputy Commander 1st Engineer Regiment 1947; G4, GHQ, AFP; Secretary, Philipine-U.S. Mutual Defense board; Chief, Plans, GHQ; Commanding General, 1st Infantry Division '63; Commanding General IV Army Military Area '64; Chief of Staff, AFP 1965-66.

—General Emesto S. Mata (22 January '66 to 21 January '67 was Commander 3rd Battalion, 74th Infantry, USAFFE '42; Commandant of Cadets, PMA [Philippine Military Academy] 1947-51; Commander 27th Battalion Combat Team, 1951; Sector Commander, Bataan-Zambales Sector 1952-53; Commander 1st Scout Ranger Regiment 1954-55; Commander Jolo Task

Force, 1956; Chief Delegate, Committee on Evaluation of Threat to SEATO, Hawaii 1957; Division Commander 1st Infantry Division 1962-63; Commanding General, Philippine Army 1963-64; OSND [expansion unknown] 1965; Chief of Staff, AFP 1966-67.

—General Segundo P. Velasco (15 August '67 to 27 May '68) was Commander of 1st Battalion, 51st Army Regiment; Commander 23rd Field Artillery Battalion, Army Infantry Division; Commander 6th BCT, 1952-54; Director, School for Combined Arms, PASC [Expansion unknown] 1958; Chairman, Phil. Delegation, 9th Intelligence Committee Conference, SEATO Headquarters, Bangkok; G-2 Philippine Army 1964; Vice Commander, Philippine Army 1965; Chief PC 1966; Vice Chief of Staff, AFP 1967; Chief of Staff, AFP 1967-68.

—General Manuel T. Yan (28 May '68 to 15 January '72) was Assistant Division Engineer, 1st Regional Division 1942; Commander, 20th BCT 1953-55;l G-2 1st Military Area, 1955-56; Secretary General Staff, GHQ 1959-61; Chief Intelligence Service AFP 1961-63; Zone Commander, 2nd PC Zone 1966-67; Chief PC and concurrently Vice Chief of Staff, AFP 1967-68; Chief of Staff, AFP 1968-72.

—General Romeo C. Espino (15 January '72 to 15 August '81) was 64, 31st Army Division Bataan Campaign; Commanding General, 1st Regional Division 1960-64; Commanding General Task Force Tamaraw, Pampanga 1962-64; Army Vice Commander 1964-66; Commanding General IMA, [expansion unkwnon] 1966; Commanding General, 2nd Division 1966-67; Army Commanding General 1967-68; Commanding General, Philippine Defense Forces 1968-72; Vice Chief of Staff, AFP 1970-72; Chief of Staff, AFP 1972-81.

—General Fabian C. Ver (15 August '81 to 16 February '86) was Chief Investigation Branch, CIS [Chief Investigative Service] 1962; Chief, Presidential Security Unit 1965-67; Director, Presidential Security Agency 1969; Commander Task Force Pasig 1970; Commander, Presidential Guards 1968 onwards; AFP Chief of Staff 15 August 1981 to 1986.

—General Fidel V. Ramos (26 February '86 to January '88) was Commander, "I" Company, 16th Army BCT, 1957; Senior Aide de Camp to Chief of Staff, AFP 1958-60; Commander, Army Special Forces Group 1962-65; Deputy G5, 1965; G-3 1st PHILCAGV [expansion unknown], 1966; Chief of Staff 1st PHILCAGV 1967-68; Presidential Assistant on Military Affairs 1968-69; J2, AFP July '69 to November '70; Commander, 3rd Infantry Battalion (September) Philippine Army 3 December '70; Commanding General, Home Defense Forces 20 January '71; Chief, PC 14 January '72 to 26 February '86; Chief of Staff, AFP 26 February '86 to January '88.

Their well-rounded careers in field and staff positions, their substantial assignments as major service commanders, their impressive academic records and their gradual rise to the highest position, if compared to Abadia's background, will reveal a serious flaw in President Aquino's exercise of presidential prerogative.

Did the President violate the law?

The law (Republic Act 291 as amended) says: "The President shall select from among officers in the permanent grade of brigadier-general and colonel who, in his opinion, is best qualified for the Office of Chief of Staff. Provided that an officer in the permanent grade of colonel must have completed at least one year's service in said grade before being nominated or appointed to occupy the office of Chief of Staff."

Here, the law is explicit that the one selected must, in the opinion of the President, be the "best qualified..." The word "selected" implies that there were others considered for the position and that the choice was a result of a comparative study of all the candidates.

In the selection process, there are important criteria which are used to guide the President to pick the best qualified officer, such as academic background, service records, outstanding feats and accomplishments and rounded experience in both command and staff positions through different levels of importance and responsibility. Officers must be loyal to the Constitution, honest, healthy, trustworthy and respectful to civilian authority, unless proven otherwise. Seniority must also be considered as a factor.

These are quantifiable fundamental criteria used objectively to determine the best qualified officer from among the candidates. The use of a "personal presidential judgment" should take a secondary role to break a tie or to assert the presidential prerogative to reach a fair and just selection.

Because if a subjective criterion or the personal taste and views of the President are given more weight than the fundamental criteria, then every officer would rather look for a political backer than aspire for excellence.

The "best qualified" rule in the law is the limiting factor of the presidential prerogative provision and once abused, it can subvert the institutions which are the underpinnings of a stable and strong Armed Forces.

These are the institutions of reward and punishment, of military justice, of respect for civilian authority, of respect for seniority and of demotion and promotion that govern the life of the men in uniform. Besides, there are customs and time-honored traditions that ought to be respected.

Looking back at the historical data of the chief of staff for the last 29 years and the comparative study of those who were bypassed this year, the President's exercise of presidential prerogative becomes more questionable.

But why? Is there a hidden agenda? The coming presidential elections? Or just plain incompetence?

The danger that lurks ahead is this: the controversial promotion can further damage those institutions, worsen the morale and discipline, aggravate political patronage and compound the corruption in the military and police service.

The country is already witnessing the daily occurrences of soldiers turning bank robbers, kidnappers, carnappers and killers; the bitter fight over key positions among PMAers and reservists; the babying of retirable generals; and an ongoing military rebellion that can turn into a full-scale revolution.

As if these are not enough, the highest civilian leadership has taken a dangerous move. Will Congress, particularly the Commission on Appointments, do the same?

Ramos Leads in Popularity Poll Survey

HK2904085591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 18

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos is leading in popularity among all presidential candidates based on an informal survey of governors and other local officials which was ordered taken by President Aquino, a Malacanang source said yesterday.

"Lamang si Ramos. (Ramos has the lead)...Speaker Ramon Mitra is a far second...Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos can be a vice presidential candidate or the No. 1 senator, no doubt," the same source said.

Based on the surveys, Ramos is perceived to be the candidate with the biggest chances of winning and may be the person whom President Aquino will likely endorse.

The source said Ramos loyalty to democracy and the Constitution and his support for decentralization or devolution of powers to the local governments are his positive points.

He is still perceived as the EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] hero, the source said, adding that his exposure in the provinces while overseeing conditions during calamities as head of the National Diaster Coordinating Council or looking into peace and order problems in his capacity as defense secretary can help his image.

While Orbos is seen as a good Cabinet member, he is not perceived as a contender to the presidential elections. Orbos has not publicly stated his political plans.

Local officials reportedly said that Orbos still lacks political maturity. "He needs to grow, develop and prove himself," the source said. "He does not have a long track record."

Should Ramos win the nomination of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] to be its presidential standard bearer, it is hoped that Mitra would accept the choice like a gentleman, the source said.

President Aquino has said she would endorse a candidate who is best qualified for the position and has the biggest chances of winning.

President Aquino last week sought the views of Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr on the conduct of the 1992 elections in view of various proposals.

Pimentel proposed that the national elections be held in May, 1992 and the local elections be held after six months to a year. He said that elections for the president, vice president and senators may be held simultaneously in May and then the elections for congressmen, governors, councilors and provincial board members be done a year later.

Bulacan Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan, president of the 75-member League of Governors, said that local officials prefer instead to have elections for the president, vice president and senators in February and the local elections in May.

He said local officials do not want the delay in the local elections beyond June, 1992, the scheduled assumption of the new president, because this would likely give rise to the appointment of officers-in-charge.

Keeping local government officials in a holdover capacity is not constitutionally tenable and would lead to numerous difficulties, Pagdanganan said.

General Nazareno Reshuffles 'Sensitive' Posts

HK2904143291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] General Cesar Nazareno, Philippine National Police [PNP] director, today reshuffled some sensitive positions in the PNP. Today, Brigadier General Juanito Aquias was named the new Regional Command [Recom] 1 director, replacing Brigadier General Miguel Abaya, who is due to retire 8 May this year. Colonel Manuel Lopez will replace General Aquias as Cordillera Regional Command director, and Colonel Dioscoro Yuro, Recom 1 deputy director, has been assigned to PNP headquarters in Camp Crame. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Colonel Alberto Olario was formally named to replace slain Masbate provincial commander, Colonel Rogelio Monforte. Nazareno appointed Major Alexander Molejon the PNP custodian officer in charge [position as heard]. According to Nazareno, the reshuffling has to be done to ensure good police service to the public. Nazareno did not admit that the the move was a result of the PNP's failure to resolve illegal gambling which exists in the areas of the officials affected by the reshuffle.

Aquino Signs Witness Protection Act Into Law

HK2504144691 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 25 Apr 91 p 7

[By staff member Lito Zulueta]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday signed into law the Witness Protection Act (Republic Act 6981) which, justice officials said, would help in the prosecution of soldiers and civilians implicated in the December 1989 coup attempt.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said, however, that the new law would not take effect unless P10 million [Philippine peso] more were added for its implementation in the 1991 national budget bill, now pending before Congress.

"Without the appropriation, this program will not work," he stressed.

Sen. Neptali Gonzales, who was present at the signing, said the Senate would consider adding the P10 million in the budget bill.

The new law grants certain rights and benefits to witnesses in criminal cases involving grave felony, particularly coups and murders. The rights and benefits include secure housing and employment, travelling expenses and subsistent allowance, security from removal or demotion from work due to absences incurred as a witness, and if the witness gets killed, burial benefits and free education for dependent children.

The new law was a consolidated measure certified as urgent by Mrs. Aquino after the December 1989 coup attempt.

At that time, defense and justice officials complained that witnesses who feared for their lives were reluctant to testify against those implicated in the failed coup.

Drilon also said the measure would help solve such cases as the alleged slaying by policemen of UP [University of the Philippines] students Ernesto Bernabe and Anna Lourdes Castanos.

Legal experts noted, however, that the new law did not ensure the safety and well-being of the witnesses and their families, which they said were more important than material benefits.

They also did not rule out the possibility that opportunists would use the new law for their own personal gain.

Aquino Drops Polish Debt Reduction Formula

HK2704030491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today dropped a proposal to seek 50 percent debt reduction from foreign creditors similar to that granted Poland. The president stated this in relation to the forthcoming talks between the Philippines and the Paris Club, comprised of creditor countries. The talks will be held a few weeks from today. Earlier, the Philippines was considering asking the foreign creditors for the same relief it granted Poland, which is called the Polish formula. Under the Polish formula, the foreign creditors condoned half of Poland's $33 billion debt. President Corazon Aquino said the government will press for the debt relief and buy back [words indistinct]. Nevertheless, the president said the Polish formula is not applicable to the Philippines because the situation of Poland and its creditors is different from the Philippines.

Aquino Stresses Local Autonomy, Decentralization

HK2804082491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] President Cory Aquino stressed today that the implementation of a meaningful autonomy and decentralization will allow local officials to respond immediately to the needs of the people.

In her speech before graduates of the Local Administration and Development Program, the president said that her administration will strive to make decentralization and autonomy the hallmarks of the Aquino administration. The president also said that in a recent decision, the Supreme Court favored wider autonomy for local officials. The president also stressed that the expected approval of the local government code will ensure the implementation of the government's primary policy pertaining to local autonomy.

The president designated Local Government Secretary Luis Santos to outline a master plan for the training of local officials and government workers on the needs of the government units. The president issued the directive as a result of some impressions regarding the ineffectiveness of local government officials.

Mindanao Wants To Formulate Own Economic Policy

HK2904061491 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 6

[By reporter Benjamin B. Cruz]

[Text] Mindanao wants to formulate its own major business and economic policies free from the dictates of the National Government, including those areas which shall touch on agrarian reform, classification of lands, issuance of franchises, and other economic policies.

All of the 46 Mindanao-based congressmen in the House of Representatives are pushing for a law which will create the Mindanao Development Management Authority and vest it with broad powers to "foster and accelerate the development" of the island.

The 46 Mindanao solons, led by Reps James Chiongbian of South Cotabato and Prospero Nograles of Davao City have authored and filed House Bill No. 33904 which seeks to create the authority that shall have the exclusive jurisdiction over all provinces in mindanao except those under the jurisdiction of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao.

Complaint

The Mindanao lawmakers, comprising almost a fourth of the entire Philippine Congress, complained that while more than half of the country's resources come from Mindanao, "it is ironic that only 20% of the national budget is appropriated for the island."

They believe that the solution to this century-old problem is autonomy in economic policies. "For who would be in a better position to determine the needs and available resources of the island but the leaders and inhabitants themselves?" they argued.

The Mindanao authority the solons envision shall be composed of all the governors and mayors of the provinces and cities of Mindanao "to guarantee the coordination and implementation of various programs" for the island.

Powers, Objectives

The proposed new economic body shall have the following powers and objectives:

—To reclassify lands according to their "proper use" and provide for the zonification of such lands;
—To issue franchises and concessions relating to exploration, utilization and development of the natural resources subject to constitutional limitations;
—To engage or invest in or extend loans guarantees to, or enter into, joint ventures with Filipino and foreign investors "as it may deem proper to the... economic development of Mindanao;"
—To receive gifts or loans, or enter into a loan agreement both from foreign and domestic sources;
—Reclaim lands for industrial uses;
—Provide for the agricultural and industrial development of the island;
—Initiate and undertake projects for the promotion of community through organized social or economic activities and instutionalized schemes of assistance and incentives;
—Make investments in any fields;
—Provide the machinery for extending the necessary planning, management and technical assistance to prospective and present investors;
—Engage in industry, agriculture and other "pioneer" enterprises within the region.

The governing council of the proposed authority shall "formulate policies, develop programs and promulgate rules" to carry out the economic thrust for the island.

While the wording of the bill is cautious on being constructed as breaking away from the National Economic and Development Authority, the major provisions of the proposed measure effectively accomplish that.

The proposed Mindanao Authority shall also be exempt from all taxes incidental to its operations as long as its subsidiary corporation shall pay these taxes five years after the creation of the subsidiary firm. But the solons still want the Philippine Government to guarantee the payment by the proposed Mindanao Authority of both the principal and the interest of the loans it entered into, and pay such if the Authority fails to do so.

If Eventually enacted into law, the Southern Philippines Development Corporation, created under Presidential Decree [PD] No. 690 to initiate and implement development projects in the island in areas where Government has not taken action, is abolished and the corresponding PD repealed. The powers under the new Mindanao Authority are more sweeping and, to use the solons' word, broader.

The Mindanao solons' move follows the deteriorating power situation which has crippled the operations of industries in the island. The National Power Corporation earlier announced that Mindanao-based industries at best would have to contend with a 35%, or worse 70%, cut in power supply until July.

Just for the power shortages alone and discounting the contractionary effects of the drought which hit the island, some 15,000 to 20,000 workers in Mindanao are in danger of losing their jobs.

Central Bank Eases Measures for Foreigners

HK2804055491 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 26 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] The Central Bank [CB] and the Board of Investments [BOI] took separate measures yesterday to attract foreign investments.

The BOI opened up practically all investment activities to foreigners. BOI vice-chairman Tomas Alcantara said foreigners may now own up to 100% of projects in the Investments Priorities Plan [IPP], including those classified as non-pioneer.

The CB, for its part, made it easier for investors to invest in the local stock market and remit their foreign exchange to their principals abroad.

Acting CB governor Gabriel Singson said, "Simplifying the investments procedure is a positive step that will encourage more foreign investments."

Last year, foreign investments in the stock market stood at $107 million, down from $311.9 million in 1989. For January this year, $54.9 million in new foreign investments came in.

Under the new guidelines, which take effect June 1, registering foreign investments will be cut to four days from ten; remitting foreign exchange could also be completed in 10 days, instead of three months.

Alcantara said foreigners can also qualify for incentives if they locate their projects in less-developed areas.

There are 47 provinces identified as less developed areas. These include Abra, Ifugao, Nueva Vizcaya, Marinduque, Palawan, Aurora, Oriental and Occidental Mindoro, Sorsogon, Catanduanes, Aklan, Samar, Sulu, Basilan, Agusan del Sur and del Norte, Bukidnon, Surigao del Norte, Davao Oriental, North Cotabato, Bohol, Siquijor, Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Norte and del Sur.

The decision, Alcantara said, was made at yesterday's meeting of the board. The move is in line with the government's objectives of encouraging more foreign investments and, at the same time, dispersing industries to the countryside.

At present, foreign control is allowed in areas not adequately exploited by Filipino firms which are specified under Book II of the Omnibus Investment Code, pioneering projects listed under the IPP, and in export-oriented projects or those which export at least 70% of their production.

Economic Official on Fall in Value of Peso

HK2904074191 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 29 Apr 91 p 1

[By Arleen Chipongian]

[Excerpt] The peso [P] value will have to fall to P33 against the U.S. dollar this year if the country wants to regain the competitiveness of its exports industry lost in the 1970s, according to a ranking official of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

He said, however, that the peso's fall, if allowed, must be backed up by appropriate policy reforms to shield the currency from speculative attacks.

NEDA has been batting for a more competitive foreign-exchange rate since the time of former economic planning secretary and NEDA director-general Solita C. Monsod. But this has been resisted by the Central Bank [CB], which influences the exchange rate.

The same official said the November 1990 depreciation of the peso to P28, from the January-October 1990 level of P21-P25, against the U.S. dollar was "not enough."

In a study, NEDA said that if the Philippines wanted to regain the competitiveness it had with Thailand and Malaysia in the 1970s, the peso-dollar rate should have been P27-$1 in 1989 and P30-$1 in 1990.

CB data showed that in 1989, the average peso-dollar rate stood at P21.73. The exchange rate in 1990 averaged P24.31-$1.

The artificial stability of the peso-dollar rate has contributed to the wide foreign-trade deficit of the country since imports turn out cheaper. Last year, the deficit stood at $4.02 billion.

The Philippines has been lagging behind its Southeast Asian neighbors, with Singapore and Thailand firmly establishing themselves as "tiger" economies.

The same official also stressed that a peso depreciation should be complemented with appropriate policy reforms in the fiscal and monetary sectors, for instance, to ensure that a cheaper peso would not lead to inflation, a major concern of economic policy makers.

It was emphasized, however, that there is no better time to allow the peso to fall than now, when the fiscal operations of the national government are in order. The government posted early this year a cash surplus and a comfortable international reserves level.

The CB reported that as of April 22, the total holdings of the government in foreign exchange, gold, special drawing rights and investments stood at $2.706 billion, good for over two months of imports.

"Things are looking up, and these are factors which are appropriate for a more aggressive foreign-exchange policy," the NEDA official said.

He also proposed the unification of the interbank and off-floor trading of foreign exchange to allow the peso to seek its real value, a move that CB Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr. has said the CB is considering. This move will expand participation in foreign-exchange trading, which is now limited to commercial banks.

The NEDA official said the "thinner" the participation in the market, the greater the influence of the CB in the movement of the peso.

The CB has been known to actively participate in the market to avert wild fluctuations in the peso value.

Businessmen are now saying that the growing strength of the peso against the dollar isn't exactly good news. They point out that it only means the business community isn't importing essential raw materials or capital goods. They warn that this may ean a serious backlash on the economy further down the line.

CB Governor Cuisia himself said that the value of the peso will decline once the business sector start responding to a resurging economy.

Sources in the business community explain that everyone is just waiting for the lifting of the levy or at least, a reduction. After that, the peso should sink to its level, they predict. [passage omitted]

Aquino: Market Forces To Determine Peso Value

HK3004062191 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] President Aquino said market forces will determine the value of the peso and not the government. She made the statement after a National Economic Development Authority [NEDA] official announced that the peso can be devalued in order to regain the exports industry's market competitiveness. According to the president, the NEDA official's position does not represent the government's position and should not be considered official.

Communist Intelligence Officer Captured

HK2904094791 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 27 Apr 91 p 8

[By B. Reblando]

[Text] General Santos City—Civilian volunteers captured yesterday a top communist guerrilla leader whose group is reportedly responsible for the burning of P7.2-million [Philippine Pesos] worth of heavy equipment in Alabel, South Cotabato, police said.

Lt. Carlito Alicarte, Alabel police chief, reported to South Cotabato Philippine National Police (PNP) Provincial Director Manuel Cabingon that civilian volunteers in barangay Alegria in Alabel town nabbed new People's Army (NPA) intelligence officer, Miguel Jabines, 18, in the house of NPA supporters.

The capture of the rebel officer, Alicarte said, foiled a plan of NPA front 71 to attack the civilians' volunteers post in the area.

Javines confessed during an investigation that he was among 50 heavily armed rebels led by Felix Baricet, alias "Commander Jack," who burned last Monday six-by-six trucks and a bulldozer owned by Eastern Resources Development Corp. in barangay Pagasa, Alabel.

The burning of the heavy equipment, the rebel said, was a punishment for the refusal of the firm to pay P15,000 monthly support to the NPA. The rebel band also butchered nine head of cattle owned by the company.

A plantation workers, Danilo Opong, who was identified by the rebels as among the 17 cordon workers as a militiaman, was wounded when the rebels fired at him as he jumped off the track.

Thailand

Kaifu Arrives, Discusses Cambodian Issues

OW3004093791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Bangkok, April 30 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in Bangkok on Tuesday on the third leg of a 10-day five-nation southeast Asian tour.

His talks with Thai leaders are expected to focus on ways of resolving the 12-year-old civil war in Cambodia.

Kaifu was scheduled to meet his Thai counterpart Anan Panyarachun later in the day for the first high-level contact between the two countries since Anan assumed the premiership in march following the February 23 coup.

On arrival from his second stop in Brunei, he was greeted at the airport by Anan and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin as a Royal Thai Air Force band played the national anthems of the two countries.

Kaifu, who earlier visited Malaysia, will seek assurances from his Thai host about policy continuity following the overthrow of former Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and confirm the intention of the military-installed interim administration to transfer power to an elected government, Japanese sources said.

Both Japan and Thailand held talks with leaders of a tripartite resistance coalition fighting the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government between March and April.

The two nations also contacted Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh government last week.

Kaifu and Anan are expected to discuss the latest developments of the Cambodian issue, and pledge cooperation in bringing about a comprehensive, lasting peace in the embattled Indochinese nation.

They will also affirm the need for closer bilateral political and economic consultations, Japanese sources said.

Kaifu is to meet representatives of the three Cambodian guerrilla groups in Bangkok on Wednesday, when all the warring parties have agreed to start a temporary ceasefire until the end of a meeting of an interim body representing all the factions, expected in May in Jakarta.

The Jakarta meeting will follow an unsuccessful inaugural session in Bangkok last September of the Supreme National Council (SNC), which was set up to help bring about a U.N.-supervised permanent ceasefire in an interim period before elections.

The temporary truce has been proposed by Indonesia and France, both of which have been instrumental in the Cambodian peace process, and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Kaifu was initially to meet leaders of only the two non-communist guerrilla factions, but the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge has agreed to join the gathering, Japanese sources said.

Attending the meeting will be Norodom Ranariddh, son of titular coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former Cambodian Nationalist Government head Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan, nominal chief of the Communist Khmer Rouge.

Kaifu will return home May 6 after visiting Singapore and the Philippines.

Finance Official on Trade Relations With U.S.

BK3004081191 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Interview with Deputy Finance Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun by Charurin Musikaphong, head of the Public Relations Department's Thai News Agency Office in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Charurin] The United States Trade Representative office has announced clearly that it may adopt trade retaliation measures against Thailand because Thailand has made no progress concerning the intellectual property rights and drug patent laws. Deputy Finance Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun who is attending a meeting in Washington talks about the impact on Thailand:

[Begin recording] [Wiraphong] I would like to address two aspects of this issue. First, there will definitly be an impact on our country because the U.S. market is one of the most important markets for Thailand. If the United States adopts drastic measures against Thailand, it will have a great impact on Thailand's economic situation. The persons who will be affected directly by the U.S. move will be the poor people, laborers, and farmers. Second, the United States has charged that we made no progress concerning the intellectual property rights and drug patent issues. This is a misunderstanding by the United States. Or, this may be caused by wrong information being supplied to the U.S. Government by some interest groups in the United States. In fact, Thailand is well aware of what is happening. In order to be a good member of the international community, Thailand is working on the intellectual property rights and drug patent issues according to the steps that we have agreed upon with the United States Trade Representative office. What appears in the U.S. newspapers is incorrect information supplied by some interest groups in the United States. The U.S. Congress and the U.S. Government should check the correctness of the news reports.

[Charurin] Your Excellency, What is your personal opinion on the future of Thai-U.S. trade relations?

[Wiraphong] I think that Thai-U.S. trade relations will never decrease. On the contrary, Thai-U.S. trade relations will only strengthen gradually. These relations will not only benefit Thailand, but will benefit both the United States and Thailand. [end recording]

[Charurin] Although Thailand may be affected by the U.S. trade retaliation measures, it will not affect Thai-U.S. trade relations. And, Thailand must reach an understanding with the American people and the U.S. Congress as mentioned above by the deputy finance minister.

Commerce Ministry To Review Export Pattern

BK3004024791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Apr 91 p B3

[Excerpt] The Commerce Ministry will review the country's export pattern to prevent excessive reliance on any one market following last Friday's decision by the United States to shortlist Thailand and threaten tariff retaliation.

Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on said yesterday the review was protection against the possibility of Washington restricting the import of Thai exports if bilateral negotiations on the protection of intellectual property rights by the Thai Government in the next seven months, fail to convince the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to drop Thailand from the shortlist. [passage omitted]

Rush To Amend Patent Act Not Seen as 'Urgent'

BK3004073091 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 30 Apr 91 p 9

[Text] Speaking to newsmen, Deputy Commerce Ministry Permanent Secretary Kroekkrai Chiraphaet denied that the Commerce Ministry will submit a draft amendment to the Patent Act at the 30 April cabinet meeting, adding that the issue is not that urgent to be rushed through for cabinet consideration.

Kroekkrai said: "It would be crazy to rush through this issue because this would be interpreted as us being unable to withstand U.S. pressure, which would amount to playing into U.S. strategy. More importantly, rushing the issue through will make the students' allegation against the Commerce Ministry appear to be true. We have resisted U.S. pressure for nearly six years, to the point where the they have now designated us for investigation and retaliation, or as a priority foreign country. Do we deserve being criticized for selling out the country for doing this?"

Lao Ministers Arrive for Trade Talks

BK2904100191 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Three Lao ministers arrived in Thailand this afternoon for talks on economic cooperation with Thailand. The Lao delegation includes Phao Bounnaphon, minister of foreign economic relations; Khamphan Simmalavong, deputy minister of trade and tourism; and Douangsavat Souphanouvong, deputy minister attached to the Council of Ministers. The Lao delegation will hold talks with Army Commander in Chief General Suchinda Khraprayun, as well as with the Interior Ministry, the Communications Ministry, the Commerce Ministry, the Foreign Ministry, and the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand beginning tomorrow. The topics of discussion range from Thai-Lao trade, tourism, calculation of electricity fares, and tax collection. The Lao side hopes Thailand will help reduce tax rates for agricultural products from Laos.

Laos is a country that depends heavily on income from the agricultural sector. However, it has the problem of transportation costs, which makes its products to Thailand expensive. So, the Lao side will ask Thailand to reduce transportation fares for Laos on a special-case basis.

Agreement on Cross-Border Transport

BK3004013191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] As a gesture of goodwill, Bangkok has agreed in principle to end the state-run Express Transport Organisation's [ETO] monopoly of cross-border transport of goods between Thailand and Laos.

Thailand concurred yesterday that Laos should be allowed to choose whatever formula it deems appropriate for the service which is regarded as a key element in the economic development of Laos and as one of the long-standing problems between the two countries.

The agreement was reached yesterday during talks between visiting Laotian Minister for External Economic Relations Phao Bounnaphon and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin.

Bangkok had hitherto remained cool to Vientiane's repeated requests to use services other than those offered by the ETO to transport goods into Thailand.

Mr Asa also said after yesterday's talks he would visit Laos during May 8-9 to sign an agreement on the formation of three joint committees.

It will be the Foreign Minister's first trip abroad since he assumed office.

One of the three committees which will oversee all issues except security will be chaired by the foreign ministers of both countries.

The second committee will handle border affairs and will be presided over by the Thai Supreme Commander and Laos's First Deputy Defence Minister Lt Gen Choummali Sai-anason.

The third is a joint border demarcation committee to be headed by the deputy foreign ministers of both countries.

Thailand and Laos are also finalising a new bilateral trade agreement, based on the 1978 version.

Bangkok is "favourably considering" Vientiane's request for Thailand to lower tariffs on farm products, said Mr Asa, adding that the issue will be brought into the framework of the new trade pact.

On the goods transport deal, Mr Asa said Thailand has agreed in principle to endorse whatever Laos chooses for cross-border transport services.

Several alternatives are being considered, including joint ventures between private investors and government-private joint ventures.

Since Thailand has been a substantial buyer of electricity from Laos, the talks yesterday also covered the idea of establishing direct communications between electricity generating authorities of the two countries to enable them to negotiate for a mutually acceptable rate, Mr Asa said.

Thailand and Laos will also expand cooperation in tourism development, he added.

Mr Asa reaffirmed that Thailand attached "utmost importance" to its relations with Laos.

At a recent policy meeting, the Government of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun decided to place greater emphasis on relations with Laos, and less emphasis on Indochina as a whole.

Despite past border conflicts, Thailand will now emphasise upgrading bilateral relations, including providing its landlocked neighbour with more assistance.

Mr Asa said the two sides have yet to discuss programmes on economic cooperation with Laos, for which Thailand has already earmarked a budget.

During his stay in Bangkok as Mr Asa's guest, Mr Phao Bounnaphon is to meet with the ministers of Transport and Communications, Finance, Interior, as well as the General Manager of the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand.

The Laotian minister already met Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on and Army Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, who visited Laos recently.

Before Mr Phao's visit, Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut visited Thailand early this month to award a "Golden Medal of Honour" to Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon.

SRV Envoy 'Satisfied' With Present Policy

BK2904011591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 91 p A5

[Text] Two months after the coup that toppled the Chatchai administration, Vietnam has gradually overcome its anxiety about the continuity of Thailand's policy toward Indochina.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung said his country had been assured by Thai officials, particularly those at the Foreign Ministry, that there would not be any major shift in Thailand's policy toward Vietnam.

In an interview with THE NATION over the weekend, Trung said that the recent discussion between Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai, who was here last week for a short visit, and senior Thai officials including Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Witthya Wetchachiwa testified to the normalcy of Thai-Vietnamese relations.

"We are satisfied with Thailand's present policy," said the envoy.

Countries in Indochina were thrown into uncertainty after the Feb 23 military coup that ousted the government of Chatchai Chunhawan. There was concern about a move away from the "battlefield to marketplace" policy of the former administration and that the emphasis on Indochina in general would be weakened.

Foreign Minister Asa has stated that Thailand still attaches great importance to Indochina. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun has publicly declared he will continue to pursue the ex-premier's battlefield to marketplace policy.

The envoy said that both countries have now agreed to establish a joint commission to oversee bilateral issues and promote economic cooperation.

"The Thai Foreign Ministry has already given us a draft agreement on the joint commission," Trung said, adding that Vietnam is expected to present its own draft soon.

He said he hoped that the agreement would be signed in Hanoi during Asa's visit there after the upcoming congress of the Vietnamese Communist Party in June.

After the setting up of the joint commission, both countries plan to work out legal frameworks to strengthen economic cooperation, especially in the area of investment and avoidance of double taxation.

The envoy said Le Mai, who was his predecessor in Bangkok, also discussed cooperation in fishery and export of agricultural products with his Thai counterparts.

Trung also said Thailand and Vietnam see eye-to-eye on the need to coordinate their export strategies on key agricultural commodities, particularly on rice. Thailand and Vietnam are two of the world's largest rice exporters.

"We must reduce the bargaining power of the third party together. We need the dollars and we don't want to sell cheaply," he said, referring a possible joint effort to cut down competition between the two countries in their rice exports.

Vietnam, he said, could learn from Thailand's experience in marketing agricultural products.

One new area of cooperation will be in gas and oil exploration in the continental shelf in the South China Sea, he said.

Experts from the two countries have already planned a series of meetings in coming months to discuss the prospect of exploration in the area and the issue of overlapping claims on parts of the continental shelf.

Suchinda Reportedly Rules Out Political Career

BK3004011191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun reaffirmed yesterday that he would not embark on a career in politics nor would he accept a political appointment.

Gen Suchinda, No. 2 in the National Peace-keeping Council and due to reach the mandatory retirement age in 1993, made the comment in response to a reported overture by a group of people trying to form a political party to support him as prime minister.

"I have repeatedly said that I will not enter politics," Gen Suchinda said yesterday.

"You have to ask the political party which wants to give me the support whether it has asked me if I am willing to accept the offer or not."

Asked why his name has been frequently mentioned by others, Gen Suchinda said jokingly:

"Perhaps my name may sound sweet and smell fragrant to others. That's why."

He reiterated that he would not enter politics "because I am a one-woman man."

When asked again if he would accept an offer for a political appointment now that he has decided against entering politics, Gen Suchinda added:

"Since I have decided against entering politics, I will not accept a political post."

People Support Right To Elect Prime Minister

BK3004022991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Apr 91 p A4

[Excerpts] More than half the people polled in a joint survey by a university and a Thai-language newspaper want the right to elect Thailand's prime minister.

The results of the random survey of 3,686 people in Bangkok and its suburban provinces, such as Samut Prakan, Nonthaburi and Pathum Thani, were published in the daily MATICHON yesterday. The survey was carried out by the paper and Ramkhamhaeng University's Faculty of Political Science.

Nearly 54 percent of the surveyed people wanted the prime minister to be directly elected by the public, while 24.2 percent wanted the premier to be a Member of Parliament [MP] selected as leader by the House of Representatives.

The remainder said they thought the premier could be a non-MP but still believed he should be chosen by the House. [passage omitted]

About 64 percent of respondents thought government or military officials should resign before assuming Cabinet portfolios.

The NPKC [National Peacekeeping Council] announced after the Feb 23 coup that government or military officials could be made Cabinet members without having to resign first. [passage omitted]

The respondents were divided over whether MPs should be barred from assuming Cabinet posts and whether such a ban would help solve the long-standing problem of vote buying.

Forty-three percent said MPs should be barred from becoming Cabinet members while 42.4 percent did not agree with a ban. The rest of the respondents gave no comment.

About 47 percent of respondents believed a ban on MPs becoming Cabinet members would help solve the problem of vote buying, while 39 percent disagreed. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Interior Ministry Holds News Conference

BK3004030691 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The Interior Ministry's Security General Department held a periodic news conference on 29 April 1991 on the political security situation.

At the news conference, the leading comrades of the Security General Department said: Despite their setbacks in various campaigns to "shift the fire back home and make secret infiltrations," during 1990 and since early 1991, anticommunist Vietnamese forces abroad have continued to increase their sabotage of our country's renovation. They have exploited the eventful changes in East Europe and the Soviet Union as well as the socioeconomic difficulties confronting our people. Against this backdrop they have criticized and spread doubts over our advance toward socialism, the party's leadership role, and the renovation.

Guided and supported by imperialists, they have published hundreds of newspapers and magazines and through dozens of foreign radio stations, they have spread their distortions, slanders, and instigations. They have also established contact with local opportunists and dissidents. By taking advantage of our party's move to broaden democracy and encourage all people to contribute their views on various draft documents of the seventh party congress, they have infused and (?exploited) those documents with harmful views against the fatherland and the socialist regime. They have also gathered intelligence and documents and sent them abroad to forces hostile to our people.

Faced with such crafty activities, our party cadres and members who are clearly aware of the enemy's schemes and actions have voluntarily and actively maintained political security and public order and safety. Many people have turned the enemy's inciting and antiregime documents to responsible parties. Others have also reported the enemy's activities aimed at getting the people's support or establishing contact to responsible parties so timely countermeasures can be taken. However, a few simplistic individuals who lost their vigilance have been exploited, influenced, and instigated to engage in activities harmful to the interests of our party and people.

The leading comrades of the Security General Department at the news conference also announced that Duong Thu Huong was arrested by the Investigation Bureau on 14 April 1991 on charges of gathering and siphoning abroad documents detrimental to national security.

Further on Briefing

BK3004065991 Hanoi VNA in English 0632 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—The General Security Department of the Ministry of Interior gave here yesterday a regular press briefing on the political security situation and work in the recent past.

At the briefing, leaders of the General Security Department said that since the beginning of this year, the anticommunist and antisocialist Vietnamese groups in exile have intensified their activities against the current renovation process at home.

The hostile forces have chiefly capitalized on recent political upheavals in the East European countries and the Soviet Union as well as the present economic difficulties of the Vietnamese people to attack and whip up skepticism about the socialist orientation of Vietnam, the party leadership and the renovation process. With the continued backing and guidance of imperialism, they have published hundreds of newspapers and tabloids and used dozens of foreign radios to spread distortions and slanders and to incite public opinion.

In addition, they have contacted opportunists and dissidents in the country, misused the democratisation policy of the party encouraging the entire people to make suggestions to the draft documents to be presented to the coming 7th national party congress, collected and distributed documents against socialism and the Vietnamese state, collected and sent abroad information and documents in service of the forces hostile to the Vietnamese people. Also at the briefing, the leaders of the General Security Department informed the media of the arrest of Duong Thu Huong by the investigative service on April 14, 1991 on charge of collecting and sending abroad documents detrimental to national security.

ADB President Receives Appeal for Aid

BK2804034091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0242 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Vancouver, Canada, April 26 (AFP)—Vietnam appealed to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) here Friday for urgent assistance, saying it lost more than one billion dollars because of the Gulf War and was tired of receiving bank missions which have produced no results.

ADB president Kimimasa Tarumizu said Vietnam's request was under consideration, and noted that other ADB members supported it.

Bank sources, however, said Vietnam, which has lost a patron in Moscow, might have to wait for the normalization of its relations with the United States before being given access to the ADB's lending facilities.

Vietnam is a regular member of the ADB, but has not been allowed to borrow since 1975, when the communist North defeated the U.S.- backed South and unified the country.

Le Van Chau, Vietnam's chief delegate to the ADB annual meeting which ended here Friday, complained that his country was not included by the ADB among the member nations hit hardest by the Gulf War and listed to receive urgent assistance from the bank.

"The crisis has cost Vietnam not less than one billion dollars equivalent in terms of commercial and financial losses," he said, referring to the trade embargo with Iraq and occupied Kuwait ordered by the United Nations.

Mr. Chau said Vietnam was determined to further liberalize its economy, citing major reforms in 1990, including new laws which allowed private firms to engage in international trade and enter into joint ventures, and offered incentives to foreign investment.

"Vietnam has had to carry out these reforms without any substantial external assistance from the international aid community," he said, adding that Hanoi needed "immediate access" to funds to continue its economic restructuring.

"Much time and money has been spent by the Vietnamese and the bank during the past three years," he said of missions sent by the Manila-based ADB. "It would be very wasteful if the findings and results obtained are not made use of in a timely manner."

An ADB study released at the Vancouver meeting lauded Vietnam for carrying out "funadamental changes" in its economy, but warned that hyperinflation and large public deficits remained serious problems.

It forecast 3.8 per cent growth for Vietnam in 1991 and 4.9 per cent in 1992, from 2.4 per cent in 1990 and 5.5 per cent in 1989. Inflation was forecast to skyrocket to 110 per cent in 1991, from 90 per cent last year, declining to 80 per cent next year.

The study acknowledged that the "most immediate obstacle" to Vietnam's further progress was the "lack of external concessional financing," and warned that unless external funds were made available soon, the pace of reform would slow down.

Council of Ministers' Note on Military Welfare

BK2704131191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] Recently the Office of the Council of Ministers sent an official note to chairmen of the people's committees of provinces, cities, and special zones directly subordinate to the central government, ministers, directors of state commissions, and heads of other offices of the Council of Ministers on continuing to solve remaining cases under postwar welfare policy. The note said:

In order to continue implementing Directive No. 105, dated 29 April 1989 of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, with the target of basically completing the remaining cases of postwar welfare policy by the end of 1992, the chairman of the Council of Ministers requests that:

1. Chairmen of the people's committee of provinces, cities, and special zones directly subordinate to the central government concentrate on solving remaining cases of postwar welfare policy in their own area; consider this one of the important tasks of the area; and have urgent plans to regularly check implementation of the plans, which must reflect the suitable and practical situations and conditions of the area.

Ministries and sectors which still have remaining cases coordinate with provinces or cities to unitedly solve the cases under the direction of the chairman of people's committee of that province or city.

2. In 1991 the people's committees of provinces, cities, ministries, and sectors concentrate to investigate the remaining cases of postwar welfare policy; review the two years' implementation record of Directive 105, dated 29 April 1989 of the chairman of the Council of Ministers mainly on Point 4 of the directive to draw on experience and plan measures to quickly and simultaneously apply instructions in the directive; continue encouraging injured, chronically ill soldiers to convalesce with their families and at the same time transfer to care facilities for war invalids and social welfare all the badly injured, mentally ill soldiers who are still at the army convalescent centers and are in no condition to be taken care of at home; urgently investigate and correctly conclude cases of missing soldiers without information and of soldiers who have been arrested by enemies in the last two years; pay more attention to cases that occurred during the fighting against the French and Americans and their families who have requested clarification several times; consider pensions for soldiers who were injured and discharged from the Army and who have not been provided with any benefits; and quickly and carefully take care of fallen soldiers' tombs, with priority given to the mountainous areas and the isolated former military bases.

Ministry Issues Directive

BK2704131391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 3 Apr 91

[Text] After receiving the official note of the chairman of the Council of Ministers on continuing to solve remaining cases under postwar welfare policy, the Ministry of National Defense issued a directive to instruct all Armed Forces to properly perform this task. The directive states:

1. Official Note No. 551 on 2 March 1991 of the chairman of the Council of Ministers is the most favorable basis for the continued solving of remaining cases on the postwar welfare policy for the next two years.

The management and commanding cadres of military regions, Armed Forces, and related organs need to understand the note completely, and from there to submit to management cadres and commanders of the military regions and Armed Forces the plans to cooperate with the people's committees of provinces and cities to practically implement the note.

2. The military regions must instruct the army units of provinces and cities to closely coordinate with offices of war invalids and social welfare to conduct inquiries so help can be provided to the locality on review of the two years' implementation of Directive No. 105, point four of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, to develop implementation under the united direction of the chairman of the people's committee of the provinces and cities, and to consider measures to motivate contributions from the public to achieve good results and guarantee that the donations will be used correctly.

The armed branches, armed services, army corps, and offices directly subordinate to the ministry, apart from the task of solving remaining cases of their own, are to cooperate with the military regions and the provincial military commands to continue solving the remaining cases in the military region that have not been solved or will be resolved at the military region and province's request.

3. In their own area of responsibility, in order to continue implementing Directive No. 50 on 17 February 1990 of the Ministry of National Defense, in the first two years of the 1991-1995 plan the military regions and the Armed Forces

must basically increase solving remaining cases of postwar welfare policy, and initially, in 1991, strive to solve most of the remaining cases.

In order to perform the above task, the ministry requests the military regions and Armed Forces motivate more labor and materials in the regions and the forces according to their practical situation to effectively contribute to an early accomplishment of the above- mentioned duty.

On receiving this directive, the military regions and Armed Forces must quickly implement it and report every quarter to the ministry.

Malaysian Economic Delegation Visits

BK2604075591 Hanoi VNA in English 0545 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 26—A group of Malaysian economic experts led by Abdulah Mohamed Tahir, director of the Industry Division of the Economy Planning Unit paid an eight-day working visit to Vietnam from April 21st.

The visit has been made in furtherance of an agreement reached between the two governments during Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet's February 1991 visit to Malaysia. While here, the Malaysian experts exchanged experiences with their Vietnamese colleagues on the macro-management in the fields of planning, investment and finance.

The Malaysian guests were received on April 22nd by Vice Chairman Vo Van Kiet.

On April 23rd, they had their first working session with various concerned offices at the State Planning Commission.

USSR Party Lecturer Visits Hanoi

BK2604151591 Hanoi VNA in English 1259 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 26—Y.E. Phiodorov, head of the External Policy Department of the International Commission, and rapporteur of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, today concluded an eight-day visit to Vietnam.

While here he delivered a speech at the symposium on Lenin held by the Marxism-Leninism Institute, attended the exhibition entitled "V.I. Lenin-October Revolution" and gave talks to party officials and mass media workers in Hanoi and Ha Son Binh Province.

On April 25, he was received by Tran Trong Tan, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and head of the Culture and Ideology Commission of the party Central Committee.

Singapore Trade Group Visits Ho Chi Minh City

BK2704104091 Hanoi VNA in English 0656 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—A group of 100 Singaporean businessmen representing near 20 trading, banking, agricultural forestry companies, has paid a visit to Ho Chi Minh City. This is the biggest group of its kind ever.

Speaking to a VNA correspondent in the city, P.S. Tan, director of the Maple Aviation Pte Ltd, stressed "Singaporean companies are keen to do business with Vietnam". He also pointed out that his delegation is looking into the opportunity to do business with Vietnam once his government's embargo is lifted.

"Singaporean companies," he continued, "are basically interested in transport and communications and are looking towards Vietnam's expansion of sea transport. We look for tourism and we will transfer technology in term of labour intensive industries.

"After meetings with officials of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment and the Chamber of Commerce, I realized that they were keen to do business with every country, and I think that the prospect for economic cooperation between the two countries are quite good."

He further informed that his aviation company has been negotiating with Vietnam to establish direct link between Singapore and Ho Chi Minh City.

Nguyen Quyet Meets DPRK Vice President

BK2704161591 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—Talks were held here this afternoon by a delegation of the Vietnamese Government led by Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and State Council vice president, and a visiting delegation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee and vice president of the DPRK.

Also present at the talks were Le Mai, Vietnamese deputy foreign minister, Cho kyu-il, Korean deputy foreign minister, Korean ambassador to Vietnam Yi Hong, and other senior officials of the two countries.

The two sides informed each other of the situation in each country and exchanged views on how to strengthen the frienship and cooperation between the two countries, as well as on regional and international issues of common concern.

The Korean delegation arrived here this afternoon. It was greeted on arrival at an official ceremony held at the government guest house by Vice President Nguyen Quyet and other senior Vietnamese officials.

In the evening, Vice President Nguyen Quyet gave a reception in honor of Vice President Yi Chong-ok and his party.

After the reception the Korean guests attended an art performance. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 2300 GMT on 27 April broadcasts a similar report on Yi Chong-ok's visit to Hanoi. This radio version adds the following: "An official welcoming ceremony for the DPRK delegation was held at the Government Guest House. Comrades Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of State; Le Xuan Chinh, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission and vice chairman of the Vietnamese Section of the Vietnam-Korea Intergovernmental Commission; and Vice Foreign Minister Le Mai, went right up to the limousine carrying the Korean guests to greet them. They warmly embraced Vice President Yi Chong-ok and other members of the delegations. Children of Hanoi respectfully presented bouquets of fresh flowers to Uncle Yi and the other Korean guests. Yi Hong, DPRK ambassador to Vietnam, and many members of the DPRK Embassy staff were present at the ceremony."]

More on 27 Apr Talks

SK3004052691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Talks between the government delegations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Vietnam were held in Hanoi on April 27.

Present on our side were the members of the government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok and the DPRK ambassador to Vietnam and on the opposite side were the members of the government delegation headed by Vice-President of the State Council Nguyen Quyet.

The vice-president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam said that the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and the DPRK are the valuable friendly relations forged by Comrade Ho Chi Minh and the great comrade President Kim Il-song, and declared that the communist party, the government and people of Vietnam want to further consolidate and develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the DPRK.

Welcoming and supporting the revolutionary principles and stand maintained by the Workers' Party and the government of Korea, he said that the Workers' Party and the government of Korea have maintained the socialist line and resolutely struggled against the anti-socialist moves of the imperialists.

He stressed: We will consistently support the efforts of the Workers' Party, the government of the Republic and the people of Korea for the reunification of their country and, especially, fully support the new proposal for national reunification advanced by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

More on 27 Apr Banquet

SK3004060191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—Nguyen Quyet, vice-president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, made a speech at a banquet he arranged on April 27 in honour of the Korean Government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, on a visit to Vietnam.

He said in his speech that the Vietnamese people are rejoiced over all the victories and successes achieved by the Korean people in the past and sincerely wish them a new greater success so as to successfully carry out the third seven-year plan and vigorously advance along the road of socialism.

Noting that the Communist Party, the government and people of Vietnam express firm solidarity with the struggle of the Korean people for national reunification, he supported the new proposal for national reunification put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address and all the just and reasonable overtures of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He said that the traditional unity and friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and the DPRK have steadily consolidated and developed as they were forged by respected President Ho Chi Minh and respected President Kim Il-song, and the Vietnamese people always set store by the traditional friendly relations.

He expressed great pleasure over the new development of the relations between the two countries after the high-level meeting between President Vo Chi Cong and President Kim Il-song in Pyongyang in September, 1988.

In his speech Vice-President Yi Chong-ok said: The two peoples struggle to adhere to the socialist principle against the anti- socialist moves of the imperialists and the Korean people will firmly advance hand in hand with the Vietnamese people on the road for the victory of socialism.

Czechoslovak Vice Foreign Minister Ends Visit

BK2704163591 Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—A delegation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia (FRCS) led by Vice Foreign Minister M. Palous concluded a four-day visit to Vietnam today.

During the visit, the delegation paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum. It called on a number of economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

The delegation was received by First Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet.

The guest had working session with a delegation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry led by Vice Foreign Minister Vu Khoan. The two sides exchanged views on the relations between the two countries and international issues of common concern. They expressed their desires to maintain and renovate the cooperation between the two countries. The two head delegates signed a cooperation agreement between the two ministries.

FRCS Ambassador to Vietnam J. Gonzor was also at these events.

Hanoi Meeting Marks 30 Apr, 1 May Holidays

BK3004064191 Hanoi VNA in English 0621 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—A grand meeting was held at the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Cultural Palace here this morning to mark the 105th May Day and the 16th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam (April 30).

Present at the meeting were Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, of the Council of Ministers; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, and representatives of various public offices as well as Hanoi population.

Nguyen Hong Quan, member of the Secretariat of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers and president of the Hanoi Workers Federation, delivered a commemorative speech. He pointed to the significance of the anniversaries, the Hanoi situation in recent years and the orientation for its development in the coming years. He reaffirmed that in spite of the complicated world situation and numerous difficulties in the country, "the entire party organization and people of Hanoi have, with their close unity and great efforts, gained achievements of important significance: the political stability has been maintained, socioeconomic upturns have been created in the process of renovation..."

On the shortcomings and existing problems of Hanoi, Nguyen Hong Quan said they were caused mainly by the poor leadership and guidance of the administration at all levels and branches, which have obstructed the fulfillment of the socioeconomic tasks in the process of the renovation.

The first thing to do now, according to Nguyen Hong Quan, is "to concentrate efforts on solving problems regarding mechanism, policy, capital, market and labour so as to effectively develop production and business, encourage all economic sectors to develop, create more jobs for people, gradually stabilize the people's life."

Speaking of the results of the recent party congress of the Hanoi party organization, Nguyen Hong Quan highly valued the suggestions made by the party members and people of various strata to the Communisty Party of Vietnam, including sincere and frank ideas that "our party should renovate itself and better its leadership in the renovation cause of the country."

New Zealand

Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama Continues Visit

Meets Rocard, Raises 'Enemy' Clause

BK3004034091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0331 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 30 (AFP)—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama have agreed to pursue talks on Tokyo's request that a "former enemy" clause be removed from the United Nations Charter, an official spokesman said here Tuesday.

Mr. Rocard and Mr. Nakayama met as both paid official visits to New Zealand.

Japanese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Makoto Yamanaka said they had "agreed to continue discussion on the various issues relating to this former enemy clause," which stipulates Germany as well as Japan. "Japan would like to eliminate the clause because it is anachronist and doesn't mean anything at all," Mr. Yamanaka said, adding that the issue had also been raised with the United States, China, and Britain.

Although Mr. Rocard criticised Monday the Japanese position in General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks, the issue was not raised during his meeting with Mr. Nakayama, Mr. Yamanaka said. Also discussed were the possible renewal of a Japan-France science and technology agreement, Antarctica, and global warming.

Meets Prime Minister Bolger

OW3004042791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0411 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Sydney, April 30 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger in Wellington on Tuesday that Japan regards as a problem the system of agricultural export subsidies practiced by the United States and the European Community (EC).

Nakayama said Japan is the world's largest importer of agricultural products and regards the U.S. and EC agricultural export subsidies as one of the problems complicating negotiations on the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Nakayama, responding to a comment from Bolger on Japan's liberalization of rice imports, said hasty liberalization of Japan's rice market would be extremely difficult in view of domestic opposition to a reduction in rice acreage.

In the brief half-hour meeting, Bolger described Japan's dispatch of minesweepers to the Persian Gulf and its 100 million dollar contribution to efforts to assist Kurdish refugees as "constructive" and contributing to the stability of the Gulf region.

Bolger welcomed the liberalization of the beef market in Japan and issued an invitation to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to visit New Zealand at a future date.

In a summary of the talks a Japanese Foreign Ministry official reported that Japan and New Zealand held similar views on most matters discussed.

Nakayama later met with New Zealand Minister of External Relations and Trade Don McKinnon.

French Nuclear Testing 'Poses Little Danger'

BK3004041491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0400 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 30 (AFP)—Radioactivity from French nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia poses little danger, an official of New Zealand's National Radiation Laboratory, Murray Matthews, said Tuesday.

More than 100 underground tests have been held at Mururoa, but even if all the radioactivity was released into the Pacific it would not be harmful, Mr. Matthews said in an interview. "The effect of any dispersion from Mururoa would be very small and probably unmeasurable in the longer term, and certainly not measurable at New Zealand and other island sites remote from Mururoa," he said.

The issue of nuclear test safety has been spotlighted this week with the visit here of French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, who said at a press conference Monday that testing was safe. Mr. Rocard was due to meet later Tuesday with members of the environmental organisation Greenpeace who argue that any leak of radiation from the atoll would be harmful.

Mr. Matthews disputed Greenpeace's stance. "It would be impossible for a marine organism to take up enough strontium-90 or caesium-137, for example, to do it any damage, because of the relatively large amount of stable strontium and caesium in seawater," he said.

For any radioactive materials without close stable analogues in sea water, such as plutonium-239, ordinary dilution would soon disperse them to very low concentrations.

He claimed ocean fish would also be unlikely to remain in any short-lived radioactive "hot pool" long enough to pick up a significant amount of radioactive contamination through the food chain.

Greenpeace nuclear test ban campaigner Stephanie Mills said little was understood about how radioactivity was diluted and dispersed in the sea, and the effects of low-level radiation on human health were poorly understood. "It is therefore irresponsible and complacent of the National Radiation Laboratory to contend that leakage from Mururoa would have no human or environmental impact," she said.

The laboratory is state-run.